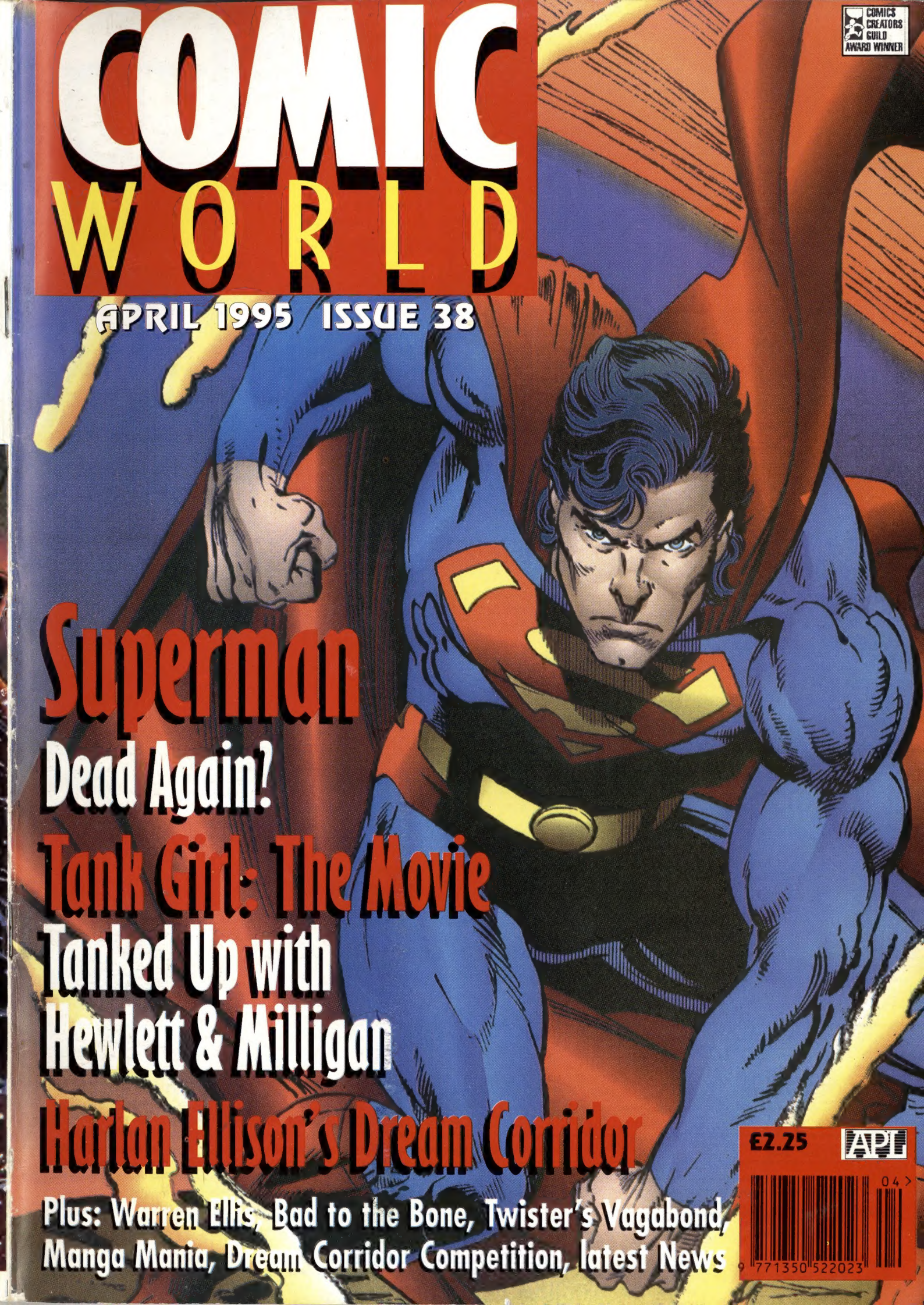
COMIC WORLD

APRIL 1995 ISSUE 38

COMICS CREATORS GUILD AWARD WINNER



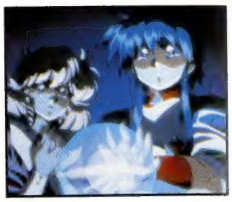
Superman
Dead Again?
Tank Girl: The Movie
Tanked Up with Hewlett & Milligan
Harlan Ellison's Dream Corridor

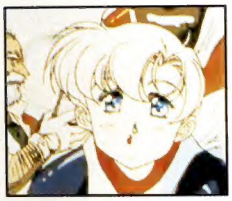
Plus: Warren Ellis, Bad to the Bone, Twister's Vagabond, Manga Mania, Dream Corridor Competition, latest News

£2.25

API

9 771350 522023 04 >





KISEKI FILMS 奇跡

Title	Quantity	Price	Post*	Total
Plastic Little		£10.99	£1.50 for first video, then add £1 for each extra video.	
Star Blazers tape 1		£12.99		
Star Blazers tape 2		£12.99		
Star Blazers tape 3		£12.99		
Star Blazers tape 4		£12.99		
Adventure Duo (tape 1 Sub)		£7.99		
Gigalo		£8.99		

I enclose as payment in full (inc post) the sum of: £

Cheque/Postal Order ☐ pay Kiseki Films Ltd.

Credit Card - Access ☐ Visa ☐

Account No:_____Expiry_____

Signed.....

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

.....Post Code.....

Card holders must use the address to which card statements are sent.

* (Overseas orders - add £1 to p&p for each tape - credit card orders only)

HOTLINE
081-741 2203

Send coupon to:
Kiseki Films,
5 & 6 Parkside,
Ravenscourt Park,
London W6 0UU.

Please allow 28 days for delivery.

Also available from Virgin Megastores, HMV, Forbidden Planet, Our Price Music, Play House, John Menzies and all good video stockists.

COMIC WORLD

APRIL 1995 ISSUE 38

Cover: Superman is back in the news, celebrating issue #100 by announcing the death of Clark Kent. DC are adding a new quarterly Superman title and Supes is about to meet the Aliens in a DC/Dark Horse crossover (see news). Our cover is by Dan Jurgens & Joe Rubinstein and is © DC Comics.

CONTENTS

FEATURES

TANK GIRL: TANKED UP!: Has Jamie Hewlett sold his soul for the yankee dollar, or is Tank Girl the same beer-swilling, kangaroo-dating, mayhem lover she ever was? Hewlett & Pete Milligan talk about tanks, toys, Homer and James Joyce.....27

WARREN ELLIS: TOMORROW, THE WORLD!: Taking a momentary break from Smoke Damage, Warren guides you through the 'One Nation Under Doom' crossover, *X-Calibre*, and the forthcoming *Druid*.....32

SUPERMAN: DEAD AGAIN: Two years ago they killed Superman...now it's Clark Kent's turn. Mike Carlin and Dan Jurgens plead guilty.....34

HARLAN ELLISON: ELLISON WONDERLAND: For over fifty years the multi-award-winning Ellison has read comics. Now he's heading up his own title, *Dream Corridor*, "A dream come true".....36

BAD TO THE BONE: How does a small group of British creators make it with a recognised American comic publisher? Noel Hannon has the answers and a lot of plans.....40

MANGA MANIA: Andy Fraine, head of one of the few companies currently expanding in the British comic marketplace, reveals what he has planned for Manga Entertainment in 1995.....50

REGULARS

UP-FRONT: Marvel reveal which titles are cancelled; Big changes for Spawn; Superman and Batman add titles...4; **IN THE WORKS**...5; **SPOTLIGHT:** Twister's Vagabond...15; **SMOKE DAMAGE:** Warren Ellis takes on Tekno Comix...16; **LETTERS:** Knockabout Comics describe their latest trouble with HM Customs...17; **WHO'S WHO:** Martin Aitchison discusses his time on *Eagle*...44; **REVIEWS:** Richard Hill gets nostalgic...46; **SMALL PRESS:** Steve Cook gets excited with the arrival of *Scenes from the Inside*...48; **MULTI MEDIA:** The latest books, graphic novels, films, videos, anime, events...52. **RETAIL SPOTLIGHT:** Forbidden Planet...61; **COMPETITIONS:** Win signed copies of *Harlan Ellison's Dream Corridor*...55

Tank Girl...Page 27

Harlan Ellison...Page 36

Published by Aceville Publications Ltd., Castle House, 97 High Street, Colchester, Essex CO1 1TH
Advertising Office: 2 East Hill, Colchester, Essex CO1 2QL

Editor: **STEVE HOLLAND**, Phone: 0206 576490, Fax: 0206 571214; Advertising Executives: **EMMA McGIVERN & ALEX CHATTERTON**, Phone: 0206 861574, Fax: 0206 862537; Publisher: **Matt Tudor**, Phone: 0206 564840; Group Advertising Manager: **Sharon Armin**, Phone: 0206 861574; Promotions: **Helen Stuttle**, Phone: 0206 563363; Subscriptions Manager: **Lyn Rodda**, Phone: 0255 676815; Administration & Accounts: Phone 0206 540327
Design: **Graham Baldock** (Phone 071 4902761); Typesetting & Origination: **Alex Baldock Typesetting** 0206 860711, **Accent Typographics** (143 Hythe Hill, Colchester CO1 2NF, 0206 794424), **Facsimile Graphics Ltd.** (Priors Hall, Colne Road, Coggeshall CO6 1SX, 0376 562323); Printing: **Acorn Web Offset Ltd.**, Loscoe Close, Normanton Industrial Estate, Normanton, W. Yorks WF6 1TW; Newstrade Distribution: **United Magazine Distributors Ltd.**, 37-45 Paul Street, London EC2 4BP; Direct Market Distribution: **Titan Distributors Ltd.**, PO Box 250, London E3 3LT

Comic World *is © Aceville Publications Ltd 1995. Characters and their distinct likenesses are ™ & © their respective creators and/or owners and are used here by permission. Features are © their respective authors. Any reproduction without permission is strictly forbidden.* ***Editorial Submissions:*** *Readers are invited to submit articles or reviews for publication. Aceville Publications cannot accept responsibility for any loss of material submitted. All submissions should be typed and double spaced and should be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. We reserve the rights to amend submissions for publication. Please note: we receive dozens of unsolicited submissions each month, and whilst we try to read them all as quickly as possible, please don't expect a lengthy reply and analysis the following day. Nor are we here to write your college thesis for you.*
Disclaimer: *The views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Publisher. Every care is taken to ensure that the contents of the magazine are accurate, but the Publisher assumes no responsibility for errors. Whilst every reasonable care is taken when accepting advertisements, the Publisher cannot accept any responsibility for any resulting unsatisfactory transactions. We will, however, immediately investigate any written complaints. Please mention* Comic World *when replying to any advertisement.*

Comic World

UP-fRONT

MARVEL CONFIRM CANCELLED TITLES

In *Comic World #35* we ran a partial listing of titles believed to be folding or going onto hiatus; Marvel have now confirmed that 25 titles have been cancelled, although some will make way for further launches or relaunches in the summer. The biggest blows will be felt by The Punisher and Conan where almost the entire line in cancelled. However, The Punisher, growing more insane by the issue and soon to be consigned to the nuthouse, will return in July in Marvel's 'Care in the Community' anthology, *Marvel Edge Unlimited*, and the collapsing Conan group will concentrate their efforts into one title, Conan, to be published later this year.

The cancellations list contains no real surprises although *Fury of S.H.I.E.L.D.* folds after only four issues of his (purportedly)

ongoing series. We believe that other limited series (such as *Druid* and *Skrull Kill Krew* (yet to be solicited) are now down to four issues.

The cancellations list below also lists issue number and shipping month:

Blackwulf #12 (Jan), *Blade: The Vampire Hunter #11* (Mar), *Blaze #12* (May), *Conan the Adventurer #14* (May), *Conan Classic #11 (Feb), Conan Saga #98 (Mar), Darkhawk #50* (Feb), *Fury of S.H.I.E.L.D. #4* (May), *Guardians of the Galaxy #62* (May), *Marvel Comics Presents #175* (Jan), *Morbius #32* (Feb), *Namor #62* (Mar), *Night Thrasher #21* (Mar), *Nova #18 (Apr), Punisher #104* (May), *Punisher War Journal #80* (May), *Punisher War Zone #41* (May), *Ravage 2099 #33* (Jun), *Savage Sword of Conan #235* (May), *Secret Defenders #25* (Jan), *Silver Sable #35* (Feb), *Spider-Man Magazine #15* (Apr), *Spider-Man Megazine #6* (Jan), *and Warlock and the Infinity Watch #42 (May).* Two titles not on the list which close in April are the two Marvel Action Hour titles featuring Fantastic

Four and Iron Man.

In March, two Malibu Ultraverse titles fold: *Firearm #18* and *The Solution #18*.

It's not all gloomy news out of Marvel this month, as the first eight titles in the 'Age of Apocalypse' storyline spanning the new look X-range are all going back to the presses. The 40,000+ print run for each title will include re-coloured covers, new ads and additional pin-up pages.

Marvel has entered into an agreement with Acclaim over right to publish interactive software titles based on Marvel characters, including TV and film properties for home video, arcade and PC-based games. Acclaim will be developing games featuring the Fantastic Four, Spider-Man and Wolverine amongst others.

It seems only like yesterday - although it's eighteen months - that the comic industry was putting out 760 titles in a month and even newcomers were promising absolutely that they would never print more than 250,000 copies of their publications whether they had orders for millions or not (Lightning Comics...who are about to release *Fury of Hellina #1* in a limited editions of 1,500 copies, and *Taking Back the Night #1* has a nude cover variant, desperate sales tactics in any terms).

Now, with sales down across the board, even *Spawn*, the industry's current best-seller alongside favoured X-titles, is now only selling in the 400,000s and the *X-Men Alpha* title probably sold in the 525,000 region to the direct market where a million was not out of the question 18 months ago. Marvelution is Marvel's way of cutting back some of the dead wood from a title heavy line, and I imagine a few other publishers are looking at what they're doing and wondering whether they should concentrate their efforts on fewer titles.

Yet the readers are out there if the product and promotion is right. This month, Marvel Consumer Marketing revealed some figures for how many people watched the Fox Spider-Man television animated show in February: not a total figure, you understand, a rating of 8.1...but it had Fox's highest viewing figures for the season in its time slot. Tucked away elsewhere was the news that Fox would be promoting the show through the Fox Kids Network, on radio and in the *Fox Totally Kids Magazine* - *"which has a readership of 13 million!"* (my emphasis).

If that latter figure is accurate it proves that there is an audience in the right age range out there in huge numbers. However, whether Marvel can capitalise on that audience and translate it into sales is another matter; the two titles in the *Marvel Action Hour* have just folded after only eight issues apiece, and although I defended the low direct-market sales figures a couple of months back by saying they probably sold better through the news-stands, it seems I was wrong. The show went off the air and the comic couldn't sustain an audience. Something went wrong somewhere... so let's hope the same mistake isn't repeated and the promotion for the Spider-Man show translates into fans in shops.

Where the glut of titles has been seen as the cause of declining sales in the USA, spreading the fan-base too thinly across too many comics, plus a lack of good storytelling failing to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

DC add ne Superman ongoing ti

Superman vs Aliens also released in May

Both the Batman and Superman families of titles are published 48 out of the 52 weeks of the year...but not for long. Every three months there's a five week month, which DC will now fill with two new quarterly titles, *The Batman Chronicles* and *Superman: The Man of Tomorrow*. The former will be 48-pages, priced $2.95, the latter similar to other Superman titles, and similarly priced at $1.95. Both are launched on May 30.

The Batman Chronicles #1 will offer an expanded view of Gotham's dark denizens, exploring the City itself; the first issue has stories by Chuck Dixon, Lee Weeks & Bill Sienkiewicz (starring ex-Police

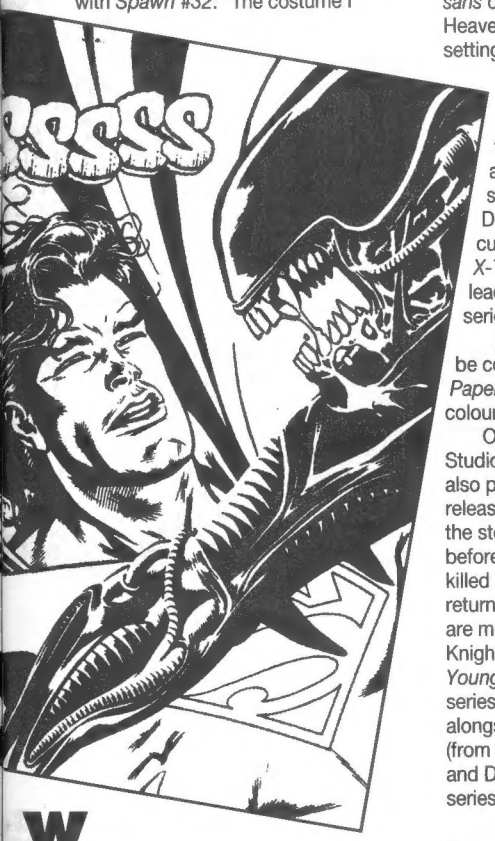
Big changes for Spawn in May

May promises to be something of a bumper month for fans of *Spawn* with big changes in store. May as the third anniversary of the character, and to celebrate Spawn will be getting a new costume with *Spawn* #32: "The costume I designed for him I never did like," said Todd McFarlane recently. "We just have to take into the fact that it is the '90s here." Events in the *Angela* mini-series lead into *Spawn #29*, with Spawn in the Bible belt of America *sans* cape, which is trapped in Heaven. In issue 31 McFarlane is setting up a situation where the costume evolves (and will be seen in silhouette), but is seen 'in the light' for the first time the following month. #32 will also have a 6-page back-up strip by Alan Moore, Tony Daniels & Kevin Conrad - the current art team on *Gambit & the X-Ternals (X-Force)*, which will lead into a 4-issue Spawn mini-series, *Spawn: Bloodfeud*.

The first five issues are also to be collected as the Spawn *Trade Paperback*, which will be partly re-coloured.

Over at Rob Liefeld's Extreme Studio, Spawn related characters are also playing a big part in two new releases: *Operation: Knightstrike* is the story of Al Simmons and Chapel - before the two fell out and Chapel killed Simmons who, of course, returned from Hell as Spawn. The two are members of the team, Knightstrike, previously seen in *Youngblood Strikefile #1*, and the series chronicles their adventures alongside team-mates Battlestone (from Brigade), Cabbot (Bloodstrike) and Dutch (Team Youngblood). The series ends with Chapel killing Simmons.

The second is *Violator vs Badrock*, a 4-issue mini-series by Alan Moore & newcomer, Brian Denham, which begins with Badrock catching the demon in Manhattan, only for the two to find themselves faced by the angel Celestine.



w & Batman tles

Commissioner Gordon on a hijacked subway train), Alan Grant & Stuart Immonnen (a story featuring Anarky) and Doug Moench & Brian Apthorp (a 'silent' strip following a mask which affects the life of a number of Gotham's citizens).

Superman: The Man of Tomorrow #1 marks the return of Roger Stern, Tom Grummett & Brett Breeding to Metropolis in the wake of the death of Clark Kent - and so is Lex Luthor.

May 23 will see the second DC/Dark Horse crossover of the year, hot on the heels of the *Batman vs Predator: Bloodmatch II* mini-series. *Superman vs Aliens* is a 3-issue prestige format mini-series by writer/penciller Dan Jurgens & inker Kevin Nowlan. The story begins with an unidentified arrival from space, a spacecraft with Kryptonian markings which sends Superman on a journey to find a remnant of Krypton, the domed city of Argo, floating empty in space - or so it first seems. Before you can gasp: 'Behind you!', he's in the midst of an Alien hive.

In The WORKS

Aardvark-Vanaheim

Cerebus: Mothers and Daughters Book 3: Reads is the (lengthy) title of the latest trade paperback collection, reprinting issues #175 through 186, 250 pages available in a signed and numbered first printing priced $28.00 or an unsigned second printing for $17.00. In the regular monthly, #192 begins a 'Cerebus Preview' by Eddie Campbell.

Acclaim Comics

This month's Valiant titles see plenty of coming and going: John Ostrander & Jackson Guice are the new creative team for the bi-weekly *Eternal Warrior #39-40* in which Gilad battle body thieves (organleggers, if you're a Larry Niven fan). Norm Breyfogle is the artist for *Bloodshot #34-35*; Dan Abnett & Andy Lanning bow off *Ninjak* with #21 and Jorge Gonzalez takes over a fortnight later; Robert L. (*Shadow Cabinet*) Washington writes the 2-part 'Ashes to Ashes' in *Timewalker #12-13*; Simon Furman & Mike Deodato are the creators of 'Manhunt' in *Turok, Dinosaur Hunter #29-30*; and Deodato pops up again as artist for the *Turok Dinosaur Hunter Yearbook 1995* from a story by Mike Grell.

May also sees the launch of the Armada line's third *Magic: The Gathering* mini-series, the 2-part Fallen Empires pencilled by Alexander Maleev.

Over at Windjammer, Neal Adams arrives with two titles: *Valeria the She-Bat* is a two-part reprinting from Adams' own Continuity Comics, and a new mini-series, the 6 issue *Knighthawk*, starring the red-caped Knighthawk the Protector in a battle with a mysterious creature known only as Nemo.

Broadway Comics

Jim Shooter, director of the new Broadway Comics (through Broadway Video) currently has three projects and ten properties under development for the company. The first three are *Powers That Be* which will launch with a storyline entitled 'X-Seed'; *Electropolis* is built around

A.M.J. COMICS

Mail order service specialists in old, recent and new comics.
Tel: 0843 230061 after 7pm.

DC COMICS

BATMAN 319-365 ..... 3.00
430-517 ..... 1.00
BATMAN ADVENTURES
4-31 ..... 1.00
BOOKS OF MAGIC 1-4 ..... 2.50
5-12 ..... 1.35
CATWOMAN 1 ..... 2.50
2-18, 0 ..... 1.25
FLASH 94-100, 0 ..... 2.00
GREEN LANTERN
46, 47, 49, 51-6, 0 ..... 1.00
HELLBLAZER 1 ..... 12.50
2-5 ..... 6.00
14-55, Special 1 ..... 2.50
61-86 ..... 1.35
INVISIBLES 1–5 ..... 1.50
ROBIN 1, 3-7, 9-14 ..... 1.25
SANDMAN 1 ..... 17.00
2, 3, 8 ..... 9.00
4-7 ..... 6.50
9-19 ..... 4.50
27-50 ..... 1.75
51-67 ..... 1.35
SUPERBOY 1-15 ..... 1.00
WONDERWOMAN 60-95, 0.. 1.00

MARVEL COMICS

ALICE COOPER 1-3 ..... 3.50
AVENGERS 370-385 ..... 1.00
DAREDEVIL 159-167 ..... 6.00
322-339 ..... 1.25
FANTASTIC FOUR 376-399. 1.25
HULK 400, 418, 425 ..... 2.00
401-417, 419-424, 426-428 ... 1.35
REN & STIMPY 5-16 ..... 3.50
AMAZING SPIDERMAN
301-324, 328, 400 ..... 3.50
378-399 ..... 1.25
UNCANNY X-MEN 201 ..... 7.50
210-213, 222, 248, 267-269 .. 6.00
284-315 ..... 1.25
WOLVERINE 1 ..... 12.50
75 ..... 6.00
76-84, 86-90 ..... 1.75
(recent X-titles available)

INDEPENDENTS

BONE 1-18 (not 1st print) 2.25
CEREBUS 121-191 ..... 1.50
EVIL ERNIE: REVENGE 1-4. 3.00
GEN 13-1 (1st print) 22.50
1 (2nd print), 5, 0 ..... 3.50
NEXT MEN 1 ..... 3.50
2-30 ..... 1.75
SIN CITY BIG FAT KILL
1-3 ..... 2.25
SPAWN 8-15 ..... 2.50
16-27 ..... 1.50
SPAWN/ANGELA 1-3 ..... 1.50
STAR TREK DS9 1-3 ..... 2.50
4-19 ..... 1.75
STAR WARS DARK EMPIRE II
1-3 ..... 2.25

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
$1.50 – £1.05
$1.95 – £1.35
$2.25 – £1.50
$2.50 – £1.75
$2.95 – £2.10

For a strictly graded 50 page list, send a large 25p SAE.
No minimum order.
Delivery within 10 days.
Postage: 1-2 comics £0.60
Each additional comic ..... + £0.20
15+ comics £3.95

Cheques to: A. Vara De Rey.
Orders, SAEs, wants list to:
A.M.J. Comics (Sale list 12)
64 Invicta Road,
Margate, Kent CT9 3SJ

FIRST CHOICE
TRADING CARDS
11 KEITH AVENUE
LIVERPOOL 4 5SL
0831-765811

FILM/TV

AKIRA 11.95
AKIRA PROMO 5.95
BATMAN (1st film UK) 4.95
BATMAN RETURNS UK 4.95
BATMAN STADIUM 9.95
DEEP SPACE NINE 12.95
DOCTOR WHO 11.95
HELLRAISER 7.95
LAST ACTION HERO 7.95
NEXT GENERATION I 25th ANN 7.95
NEXT GENERATION II 25th ANN 7.95
NEXT GENERATION INAUGURAL 13.95
NEXT GENERATION EPISODE 1 ..... 12.95
SIMPSONS II 10.95
SIMPSONS (Topps) 5.95
SEAQUEST 12.95
STAR TREK I & II 7.95
STAR TREK MASTERPIECES I & II ... 13.95
UNIVERSAL MONSTERS 14.95

COMIC

BATMAN SAGA 8.95
CREATORS UNIVERSE 11.95
CONAN (Chrome/100 card & subset) .. 24.95
MARVEL MASTERPIECES I & II 17.95
MARVEL MPIECES III ((Hildebrandt) .. 17.95
MELTING POT I (Chrome & subset) ... 19.95
SPIDER-MAN 30th ANN 3.95
VALIANT ERA I 4.95
WILDC.A.T.s 4.95
COCA COLA I, II & III 9.95

FANTASY ART

ACHILLEOS II 8.95
BARR (Ken) 5.95
BARLOWE (Wayne) 6.95
BERKEY (John) 5.95
BELL (Julie) standard 6.95
BORRENSTEIN 11.95
CORBEN (Richard) 5.95
DEAN (Roger) 5.95
DI FATE 6.95
ELVGREN I & II 8.95
FRAZETTA II 4.95
FRAZETTA HOLOSET 4.95
HESCOX (Richard) 5.95
HILDEBRANDT II 6.95
HILDEBRANDT (Tim) 5.95
HILDEBRANDT BROTHERS 6.95
HOLLYWOOD PIN UP 7.95
JONES (Jeff) 6.95
KELLY (Ken) I & II 8.95
KIRBY (Jack) 7.95
MOEBIUS 4.95
MASTERPIECE COLLECTION 4.95
MACLEOD (standard) 6.95
OLIVIA III 6.95
OLIVIA BEST OF (Chrome) 19.95
PARKINSON (Keith) 9.95
PARRISH 7.95
PETTY GIRLS 7.95
PLOOG (Mike) 9.95
ROWENA 8.95
ROYO (Luis) I & II 6.95
STOUT (William) I 7.95
STOUT (William) II 5.95
SANJULIAN 8.95
SORAYAMA I 8.95
SORAYAMA II (Chrome) 19.95
VALLEJO II 7.95
VALLEJO III (72 card prism) 14.95
VALLEJO IV 7.95
WARREN I & II (Jim) 6.95
WHELAN (Michael) 5.95
WRIGHTSON ART 8.95

ADULTS ONLY

CALIFORNIA DREAMIN' 11.95
CHRISTY CANYON SET 4.95
DOLLHOUSES I 7.95
DOLLHOUSES II & III 17.95
HUSTLER II & III 17.95
HUSTLER (January to October) 6.95
HUSTLER FANTASY GIRLS I, II & III ... 6.95
PENTHOUSE I (110 cards) 19.95
AMBER LYNN 4.95
DOUBLE VISIONS (includes viewer) ... 19.95
STRIPPER PREVIEW (signed) 9.95

Many more sets available, please send SAE for list.
All prices are per item.
Please make cheques payable to: **R. Hall**
Postage: Orders to £15 - add £1 p&p.
Orders over £15 post **FREE!**
Single cards & Chase cards available
Orders taken on single card upwards.

three series, 'City Knights', 'Spire' and 'Makeshift'; and *Shadow State* is again three storylines which criss-cross into each other: 'Fatale', 'The Spirit of Freedom' and 'The Hell I Am', all featuring a group known as The Technomancers. The first title, *Powers That Be* is scheduled for August.

Cosmic Comics

Roger Corman's line of comics is launched in April with two titles: *Death Race 2020* is a sequel to the *Death Race 2000* movie by Pat Mills, Tony Skinner & Kev O'Neill, and worth getting just for that; *Bram Stoker's Burial of the Rats* is an adaptation of the *Dracula* creator's gothic horror short story by Jerry Prosser, F. Solano Lopez and Val Mayerik.

Dark Horse

April's line-up of newcomers includes *Ghost #1* starring the most enigmatic of the Comics' Greatest...ah, but they're 'Dark Horse Heroes' now. Eric Luke, Adam Hughes & Mark Farmer are the creative team for the babe who looks like a dream but comes on like a pistol-packing nightmare. Hughes & Farmer will produce 3 out of every 4 issues, the fourth to be arted by Matt Haley & Tom Simmons (of last year's *Ghost Special*). The new series sees the newly dead Ghost investigating

her own past, starting with her sister Margo, although she may wish she hadn't.

The '*manga* month' (a sort of extended remix) continues with two new titles, *Gunsmith Cats* by Kenichi Sonada which will run to ten-issues of the high speed adventures of two bounty-hunting girls in Chicago, assigned to track down a bail-jumper who's on the run from the Mob; *The Legend of Mother Sarah* by Katsuhiro Otomo & Takumi Nagayasu is an 8-issue series about the search by a mother for her family

in a bleak post-apocalyptic world.

Indiana Jones & the Spear of Destiny is a new 4-part series by Elaine Lee, Will Simpson & Dan Spiegle set in 1945 Ireland where Indy and his father discover that the Nazis have captured the spear that pierced Christ's side.

Star Wars: Droids becomes an ongoing monthly by Ryder Windham & Ian Gibson from April 11, the opening storyline seeing Artoo-Detoo and See-Threepio on the trail of a con man on the crime-infested world of Nar Shaddaa.

Eddie Campbell and Teddy Kristiansen present a *Bacchus Color Special* one-shot as Bacchus sets out to retrieve a bottle of wine in Spain. *Wolf & Red* revives Tex Avery's 1942 Looney Tunes characters of Red Riding Hood and the Wolf for a 3-issue series, with Droopy and Spike as back-up characters. The Shadow returns again for 3 issues and a war between chinese tongs and the Mob breaks out after a body is fished out of the river. *Hell's Heat Wave* is written by Michael Kaluta and Joel Goss with art by Gary Gianni. *Aliens vs Predator: War #0* collects the 14-part story from *Dark Horse Insider* and acts as a prelude to the forthcoming *War* mini-series which begins in May.

DC

Sovereign Seven
May sees the launch of Chris Claremont's long-awaited *Sovereign Seven* ongoing monthly, his first since leaving *X-Men* in 1991. The Sovereign Seven are super-powered refugees from a reality-shattering cataclysm who are cast adrift on a dangerous alien planet - Earth. The seven are: Cascade, who can move across time and space; Network, a powerful telepath; Reflex, a master of incredible speed; Rampart, the stylish soul who is the bulwark of the team; Finale, whose weapons are terrible beauty and inexplicable allure; Indigo, an absolute master of disguise; and Cruiser, a fierce telekinetic and a pure, unstoppable force. Each is heir to a ruling family on their world, and it becomes clear

as their story unfolds, that their joint destiny is no accident.

Artwork for the first, 32-story-pages, no-ads issue - which sees the Seven clash for the first time with the Female Furies of Apokolips - is by Dwayne (*Wolverine, Stormworld*) Turner, with Jerome K. Moore added as inker from issue 2. DC are making the first three issues of the series returnable.

The Milestone line is gearing up for a 'Long Hot Summer', a 3-issue mini-series written by D.G. Chichester with art by Denys Cowan & Prentis Rollins. The first issue, released May 2, concerns a major upheaval in the city of Dakota that will shatter the status quo of the Milestone heroes, the building of a theme park on Paris Island which gives rise to bitter resentment from the thousands relocated to make way for this 'Utopia'. The series will reveal how the face of Dakota is changed forever, how a rift splits the Shadow Cabinet, what happens to Kobalt, takes in a double-sized *Static #25* and introduces a new Dakota Universe protagonist.

At the same time, one title per month from the Milestone line will be available for a mere 99c, starting with *Hardware #29*, and the titles take an upgrade in paper stock and add painted covers.

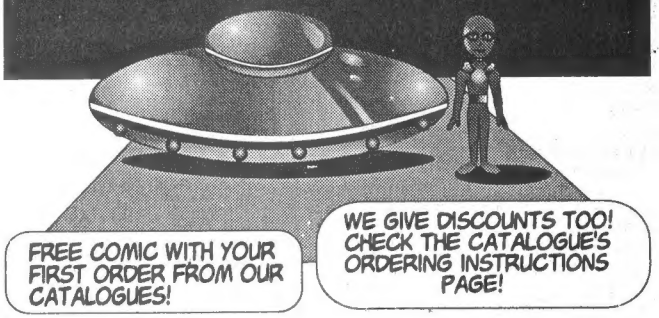
Chiaroscuro: The Private Lives of Leonardo da Vinci is a new 10-issue Vertigo series, an intense, sexual and emotional look at the age of decadence through the eyes of the famous artist and inventor. Many other famous historical characters will appear, Michelangelo, Machiavelli, Cesare Borgia and a passionate, headstrong woman who will be immortalised as the Mona Lisa.

Continuing the run of 100th issue anniversaries, *Wonder Woman #100* should add to the renaissance the title is undergoing, although it marks the final appearance of writer William Mesner Loebs and artist Mike Deodato, Jr. A collectors edition of the 48-page issue, the climax of the 'Contest' storyline which reveals why Paradise Island choose a new Wonder Woman, will be available in a holographic, foil stamped Collectors Edition. From issue 101, John Byrne is the new creator, noting that "She's the last of the 'big name toys' I've got to play with."

William Shatner's first *Star Trek* novel, *The Ashes of Eden*, is adapted into a 96-page graphic novel by Shatner and Judith & Garfield Reeves-Stevens, with art by Steve

COSMIC COMICS
PO BOX 1771 LONDON E17 9PW

COSMIC COMICS WAS SET UP SOME TIME AGO TO PROVIDE A SERVICE SUPPLYING BACK ISSUE COMICS AT AFFORDABLE PRICES. WE BUY MOST OF OUR COMICS IN BULK DIRECTLY FROM AMERICA WHICH IS WHY WE CAN OFFER YOU GREAT COMICS AT GREAT PRICES! WHAT WE OFFER IS A VAST SELECTION OF COMICS FROM THE 1960's TO THE PRESENT DATE. ALL THE COMICS LISTED IN OUR CATALOGUE ARE STRICTLY GRADED, IF YOU ORDER VFN-MINT (IE TOP GRADE) COMICS, THAT'S WHAT YOU WILL RECEIVE. WE DON'T SEND LOWER GRADE COMICS IN THEIR PLACE. ALL OUR COMICS ARE MAILED OUT FLAT IN OUR SPECIALLY MADE BOXES. ONE CUSTOMER STATED THAT OUR BOXES WERE "ATOM BOMB PROOF!" SEND A STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE NOW FOR OUR LATEST COMICS CATALOGUE. IT COULD CHANGE THE WAY YOU BUY YOUR COMICS!



FREE COMIC WITH YOUR FIRST ORDER FROM OUR CATALOGUES!

WE GIVE DISCOUNTS TOO! CHECK THE CATALOGUE'S ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS PAGE!

Memo to:
All Comic World readers.
Memo From: Big Ivor:
RED HOT COMICS

"Want to be at Clark Kent's Funeral?"(£1.24)
"DREAM of getting the Harlan Ellison series?"(£1.88)
"Better odds finding Booga the Kangaroo than TANK GIRL?"

We Can Help!!
Save on shoe-leather! Save on time! Save £££'s!!!!

Our Advance Import service enables YOU to order new comics for as little as 96p!* We also offer the full range of Magazines, Books,and Cards, etc. from PREVIEWS and ADVANCE COMICS at discounted prices...AND we can find elusive back-issues too!!

No more gaps in your collection! No more need to pay inflated prices on HOT items!
All Advance Imports are bagged, and securely packed.

Quoted prices are inclusive of P+P!!

SO, don't delay; Join up with a quality service that you can trust; Write (or phone), TODAY, enclosing a SAE.
Comic World Fansaving Plan, RED HOT COMICS,
42 Berridale Avenue, Cathcart, Glasgow G44 3AE.
Telephone 0141 637 0162 (Not A Shop)
(Answering Machine service available)
*$1.50 advance price.
**Advance Import prices for issues solicited in February/March Previews or Advance Comics
.No minimum order. Discounts for monthly orders of £50+.
Check out our *LISTING* at the back of this issue too!

Erwin & Jimmy Palmiotti, with a cover by Hugo Award-winning Nicholas Jainschigg. The story sees Admiral Kirk resign from Starfleet and head at warp speed to a planet where mysterious events are unfolding under suspicion of turning against the Federation. After him is sent the *Excelsior* - captained by Sulu and containing many of Kirk's crew - to bring him back...dead or alive.

We begin our round up with more *Trek*, namely a 160 page *Next Generation* collection under he title *Beginnings* which collects the first DC *ST:NG* mini-series by Mike Carlin, Pablo Marcus, Carlos Garzon & Arne Starr...the 'Death of Clark Kent' storyline ends in *Action Comics #711*...'Year One' annuals continue in May with *Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight Annual #5* by Chuck Dixon & Quique Alcatena exploring the origin of Man-Bat, *Detective Comics Annual #8* reveals the origin of The Riddler by Dixon & Dwyer...*Superman Annual #7* by Roger Stern guest stars Dr. Occult...*Aquaman Annual #1* by Peter David contains four related stories...*Guy Gardner: Warrior Annual #1* by Beau Smith involves a battle between alien monsters and the Vuldarians... *Catwoman Annual #2* stars a teenage Selina Kyle...meanwhile over in the monthly *Catwoman, #22* sees the debut of guest writer Deborah Pomerantz for the 3-issue 'Family Ties'...Guy *Gardner #32* launches the 7-part 'Way of the Warrior' crossover which continues through *Justice League America #101*, *Hawkman #22* and into *Guy Gardner #33*...Chris Weston is the artist for *The Invisibles #10*, the first of three stories which look at other Invisible operatives...Eduard Batteto is guest artist for *Batman #520*...Roger Robinson pencils *Flash #103*...Michael Jan Friedman, Stephen Jones & Rich Rankin join Marv Wolfman on *The New Titans #123*...*Legends of the Law #8* begins a 3-part story written by John Byrne...J.M. DeMatteis and Scott McDaniel are creating a 48-page Batman one-shot for publication in June...

Image

May should see the launch a 13-part WildStorm Productions crossover pitching *WildC.A.T.s* and *StormForce* against the most powerful Daemonites. The story will be written by James Robinson, Ron Marz and Steve Seagle. Robinson will pen the first *WildStorm* bookend title with art by Barry Windsor-Smith. Ron Marz will write the closing book, *WildStorm #2*, and Seagle will be the regular writer of *Grifter* who will spin-out into his own series.

Savage Dragon #17 was shipped in two forms, one with a 'mature reader' cover (although that wasn't mentioned on the cover itself) featuring a female character, and a regular Dragon covered edition.

April titles from Image include the collected *Gen 13* and *Cyberforce: Assault with a Deadly Woman*, plus newcomer *The Other* by Jim Valentino, Sniegoski, Patrick Blaine & Jason Gorder (described as "neo-fan-faves" - faves of newcomers to comics?). In fact a quiet month, if you don't count *Spawn Trading Cards* from Jim Lee's Wildstorm Productions.

Malibu

Malibu's big launch for May is *Curse of Rune #1* which ties in directly with the final issue of *Warlock & the Infinity Watch #42* which sees the team disbanded and the soul gems dispersed. Adam Warlock's soul gem falls into the hands of Rune, and it has an unforeseen effect on his metabolism, turning him into an even nastier energy vampire than before. The story by Chris Ulm & Kyle Hotz picks up where last month's *Rune/ Silver Surfer* ended, the first issue available with two different covers which, together, form a single image.

Eliminator is a 3-issue series written by Ultraverse editors Hank Kanalz & Roland Mann with art by Mike Zeck & Dennis Rodier; Eliminator is a cybernetic killer who trains other killers, who becomes embroiled in a killing game with his arch-enemy, Mannequin, and the Ultraverse's new bad girl, Siren.

From May, Marvel's Loki will be appearing in one title a month,

COMIC MARTS

BRITAIN'S TOP DEALERS SELLING THOUSANDS OF COMICS, TV/FILM MAGAZINES, POSTERS, BOOKS, TRADING CARDS, MODELS, GAMES & ALL KINDS OF SF/FANTASY MATERIAL!

BIRMINGHAM	**SATURDAY: APRIL 29th, JUNE 17th, AUGUST 5th** CARRS LANE CHURCH CENTRE, BIRMINGHAM
CAMBRIDGE	**SATURDAY: JULY 1st** THE GUILDHALL, WHEELER ST., CAMBRIDGE
LEEDS	**SATURDAY: APRIL 22nd, JUNE 24th, JULY 29th** LEEDS METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY, BRUNSWICK HALL, MERRION WAY
HULL	**SATURDAY: MAY 13th, JULY 15th** COMFORT FRIENDLY INN (VALIANT HOUSE), ANLABY ROAD, HULL
LEICESTER	**SUNDAY: APRIL 9th, JULY 2nd** YMCA, GRANBY STREET, LEICESTER
LIVERPOOL	**SUNDAY: MAY 21st** GLADSTONE HOTEL, LORD NELSON STREET, LIVERPOOL
MANCHESTER	**SATURDAY: MAY 20th** SACHAS HOTEL, TIBB STREET, PICCADILLY
NEWCASTLE	**SATURDAY: MARCH 25th, MAY 27th** UNIVERSITY OF NORTHUMBRIA, STUDENTS' UNION BALLROOM, SANDYFORD ROAD, NEWCASTLE
NOTTINGHAM	**SATURDAY: APRIL 1st, JUNE 3rd** VICTORIA LEISURE CENTRE, GEDLING STREET, NOTTINGHAM
SHEFFIELD	**SATURDAY: APRIL 8th, JUNE 10th** MAIN HALL, SHEFFIELD HALLAM UNIVERSITY, HOWARD STREET

DEALERS: WRITE FOR INFORMATION PACK
SEND SAE FOR FULL DETAILS:- GOLDEN ORBIT, 9 STRATFORD WAY, HUNTINGTON, YORK YO3 9YW

OPENS MIDDAY

starting with *Hardcase #23*. Hardcase now has the Time Gem (from Marvel's *Infinity Crusade*), and can travel through time.

Malibu's regular DS9 series is augmented with the first *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine Celebrity Series title Blood and Honor* co-written by Mark Lenard - better known as Spock's father, Sarek. However, Lenard first appeared as a Romulan Commander in the original Trek story 'Balance of Power', and with co-writer and artist, Ken Penders, he introduces the Commander's son, Jannek, and a mysterious alien race. Complicating matters is a murder aboard Deep Space 9.

Marvel

After 'After Xavier'

Marvel's X-titles revert to 'during Xavier' come May, but don't expect the *status quo* to not reflect events from the past four months...everything is NOT back to normal. On May 2, *X-Men Prime* by Scott Lobdell, Fabien Nicieza & Bryan Hitch will relaunch the X-titles, a 48-page, no ads special with a refractive chromium cover. Rogue and Iceman are on the run, only Jean Gray can help Wolverine, and two new mutants join Generation X. Four of the alternative X-line characters will cross over into the regular Marvel universe. Some new creators will be arriving with the newly relaunched 'real' universe: Fabien Nicieza has been replaced on *X-Force #44* by Jeph Loebs with art by Adam Pollina.

Throughout May, all eight of the retitled X-books will have their four issues collected into 96-page bookshelf editions with etched gold covers. These 'Ultimate' editions are price $8.95.

In a related universe, the early adventures of *Captain Britain* are reprinted from the British magazine, *Marvel Super-Heroes*. The strip launched Alan Davis in 1981, originally working with scriptwriter Dave Thorpe. Shortly after, Alan Moore took over, and produced one of the most raved about make-overs of the early Eighties. The seven issue series, *X-Men Archives: Captain Britain* debuts on May 16.

Now that Spider-Man's been arrested for murder (in *Amazing Spider-Man #400*), May's Spider-web of titles concentrates on 'The Trial of Peter Parker', with Ben Reilly standing in for Peter as the latter hunts Kaine, the only one who can clear Peter. The tale runs through *Web of Spider-Man #126*, *Amazing Spider-Man #403* (in which Peter endures his own trial - at the hands of Carnage, with a jury of his most psychotic foes), *Spider-Man #60* (in which Kaine's identity is revealed), and *Spectacular Spider-Man #226* in which the true identity of the REAL Peter Parker is revealed.

The 'Planet of Symbiotes' storyline continues through Spider-Man *Super Size Special #1*, which has a fifth ink cover and a Scarlet Spider flip-book story. And with the closure of various titles, New Warriors will now be tied in more directly with the Spider-Man line, and issue 61 promises more line-up changes as a new enemy decimates the Warriors.

COMIC, CARD & SCI-FI FAIR

MILTON KEYNES

SUNDAY 16TH APRIL

Woughton Leisure Centre
Woughton Campus, Rainbow Drive,
(off Chaffron Way H7),
LEADENHALL, MILTON KEYNES
(Only 3 miles from Junction 14 of M1)

125 DEALER STALLS

Don't Miss It!!!!!!!

Top Dealers attending include: Armadillo Comics Framed Nostalgia, King Oliver Trading Cards, Cybertec, Magma Enterprises, Clives Comix, Mighty World of Comics, etc, etc.
The last 3 fairs have been sell outs, so dealers please book early. *Tables from only £18.*

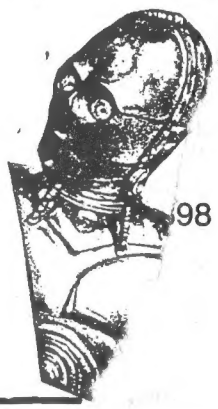
TV/Sci-fi collectables, Comics, Models, Kits, Diecasts, Videos, Trade cards, Records, Posters, Annuals, Books, Pop & Film Memorabilia, Autographs, Etc, Etc.

These are the friendliest and best attended events in the UK attracting top dealers from all over the country – Don't miss them!!!

Admission: Adults £1, Child 50p
Entry: 11am to 4pm
Stall Enquiries: 0462-683965

Made in Heaven, 216 Kristiansand Way, Letchworth, Herts SG6 1TU

Future Dates: Sunday 27th August '95 & Sunday 5th November '95



The storyline will continue in next month's *Spectacular Spider-Man #227.*

In 2099, Steel Rain is unleashed in *2099 A.D. Unlimited #9* by Warren Ellis, and Spider-Man 2099 confronts a new villain. In *Ravage A.D. 2099 #32* it's Ravage vs Doom in the build up to next month's final issue...so who do you think wins? It looks like Marvel have officially added *A.D.* to their 2099 titles to denote *After Doom*. It'll be interesting to see how your database is affected if they revert to just an issue number...

'Atlantis Rising' continues to cause grief through the pages of *Fantastic Force #9, Warlock & the Infinity Watch #42* (last issue), *Fantastic Four #402,* and the wrap-up, *Fantastic Four: Atlantis Rising #2*...in which a team-member leaves...Another x-over, 'Taking A.I.M.' concludes in the pages of *Captain America #441* and *Avengers #388...Force Works #13* guest stars The Avengers and will lead to a big shake up in the near future...*Thor #488* is also prepares the way for a total revamp in July...Nocturne is a new monthly series by Dan Abnett, Joe Fonteriz & John Stokes which debuts on May 23...

The Marvel 'Edge' titles have suffered the most in the Marvel re-shuffle, with half of the ten titles axed (see main news). *Blaze, Fury of S.H.I.E.L.D.* and the three *Punisher* titles go in May, clearing the decks for an Edge family relaunch in July's *Marvel Edge Unlimited* and four new titles due in August: *Tomb of Dracula* (one-shot), Daredevil: Original Sin (3 issues), *Elektra & Friends* (4 issues) and *Typhoid Mary* (4 issues).

Joe Kubert's story, *Abraham Stone* is reprinted in two 48-page issues. Maybe someone can help us out here...did the story appear in *Argosy*? There's a fiver resting on the answer...

Mark *(Flash)* Waid will be the new writer on *Captain America*, beginning in the summer, replacing Mark Gruenwald whose editorial duties have increased during 'Marvelution'...Fred Burke & Franchesco are the creative team for the summer-released *Fusion Force*, about five teenagers who have implanted alien powers which manifest themselves on the first day of school summer...

Millennium

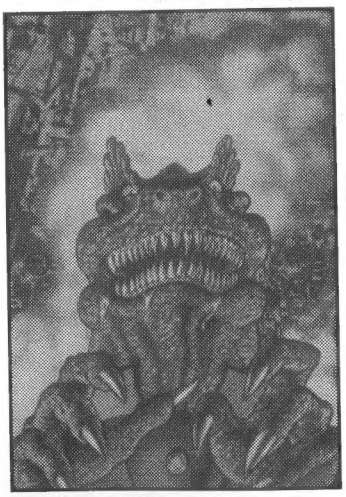
Millenium are planning a creator-owned line of titles which will include *The Tiger Woman, Wicked, Sparrow, Descending Angels* by Faye Perozich, *Power Plays, Heartstopper* with art by Fauve and Christina Adams, *Lorelei,* and *The Leopard*, a superhero by Dan & David Day. Ah, but will it ever match the sheer wonder of 'The Leopard from Lime St.'?

Motown

Motown, a division of Polygram with offices in Beverly Hills, are planning to launch a new comics' line in 1995 via their Animation division, initially publishing 4 titles: *Law, The Crush, Human Nature* and *Stealth-3*. With their obvious music connections, there are also plans for a *Law* radio show, and a 6-episode (at first) animated show. They've already thought of a way out of the problem of the Dark Horse character also named Law: there will be a crossover. Distribution for the line to the direct market will be through Marvel.

Tekno Comix

Tekno add *Neil Gaiman's Teknophage* to their roster, written by Rick Veitch, Bryan Talbot & Angus McKie, the creative team gaining the most plaudits from fans. In May, Tekno add yet another Gaiman creation, *Lady Justice.*



Topps

Return to Jurassic Park is a 3-issue series about...do you really need telling? Steve Englehart, Joe Staton & Rich Rankin are the creative team. Roy Thomas & Esteban Maroto

JUST COMICS

THE NAME FOR RELIABILITY

During our seventeen years in the business we have built an unequalled reputation for quality of service and product

Collectors

Just send a 29p SAE for our current catalogue of a mammoth **125,000** comics and comic storage supplies

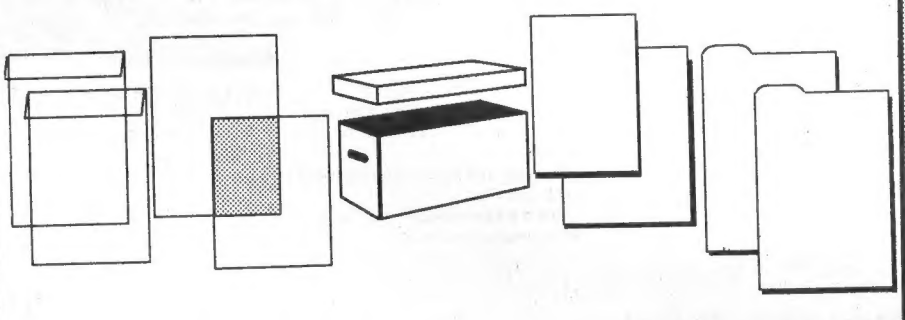
please quote *Comic World*

please note that our telephone line is for wholesale only - thanks

Dealers

We are the country's leading and most comprehensive supplier of specialist comic storage and archiving supplies

call us for a free portfolio on:
081 578 1308



Just Comics
2 Crossmead Avenue Greenford Middlesex UB6 9TY

NO

SI

SEND SAE FO

continue their history of Dracula in *The Dracula Chronicles*, a 3-part sequel to *Vlad the Impaler*.

Viz

Six issues of *Bio-Booster Armor Guyver* are gathered together in a 196-page graphic collection which reveals the origin of the bio-boosted armour; the second series will be collected in June, and the third series begins a 7-issue run in April. Also getting reprint treatment, *Fist of the Northstar* is gathered into a massive 368-page book reprinting all 8 issues of the Viz mini-series by Buronson & Tetsuo Hara.

Striker: Secret of the Berserker is a 4-issue series by Hiroshi Takashige & Ryoji Minagawa following up the popular first series. Striker is a special forces elite team that shields Earth's inhabitants from dangerous artefacts left by ancient societies. The Berserker of the latest series is a deadly robot uncovered by British archaeologists.

BRITISH NEWS

Crow Comics

Crow Comics is a small, independent publisher founded in the South West of England in November 1994 whose first title, *Force 10*, will be released in April. The bi-monthly concerns a group of paranormals brought together - not all willingly - under the wing of the United Nations. In the first three-issue story arc, 'Children of the Revolution' the newly-formed team has only 7 members on training in Norway when an exercise goes badly wrong. If you think you'll have trouble finding a copy at your local shop, Crow Comics can be contacted direct at 21 Church Street, Bishops Lydeard, Somerset, TA4 3AT.

Fanny

It was recently announced that the London-based women's anthology, *Fanny*, has hit a funding problem which may prevent the fifth issue from being published. The first Fanny publications were funded by a grant, which they stretched to cover six issues (four of *Fanny* and two of *Dyke's Delight*). Fanny is not only a publisher, but an alliance of women cartoonists from around the world, with more than 200 members listed on their Directory.

Fleetway

Amidst the annual (and denied) rumours that Fleetway are up for sale, the junior Dredd title now has a fuller title: *Judge Dredd: Lawman of the Future* or 'Lofty' for short (because it makes more sense that lotfy). Writers guidelines for the comic have been sent out and will be distributed at Glasgow, with art guidelines to follow.

2000AD's lineup continues essentially the same with 'Dredd: Crusade', 'Armoured Gideon', 'Finn' and 'Harlem Heroes'. New to Prog 932 will be the return of 'Brigand Doom' by Alan McKenzie & Dave D'Antiquis for a five week run.

Judge Dredd Megazine #76 sees the end of the latest Dredd and Harmony serials, plus part one of a 2-part Shumura story entitled 'Assassins' by Robbie Morrison, Robert McCallum & Simon Fraser, plus Judge Anderson inside and on the cover by Steve Sampson. Sampson moves over to Dredd in #77 for the one-off 'Poor Johnny' written by John Wagner, and there's a special Dredd meets Kurt Cobain cover. Pandora makes her first appearance since her *Mega-Special* debut for a 5-part story, 'Mural Scream' by Jim Alexander & John Hicklenton, and Charles Gillespie takes over Judge Anderson.

The Complete Judge Dredd #39 begins the epic 'City of the Damned' storyline, with a cover by Frank Quitely.

Hawk Books

Hawk will be releasing their eleventh *Dan Dare, Pilot of the Future* volume in April, collecting 'The Solid Space Mystery' (the title story for this volume), 'Platinum Planet' and 'The Earth Stealers', all drawn by Don Harley & Bruce Cornwell.

Marvel

The Glam Metal Detectives, the 7-part series by The Comic Strip launched on BBC2 on February 23, gets the comic treatment on March 23. The series was conceived and directed by Peter Richardson and stars Gary Beadle, Mark Craven, and Phil Cornwell, and Marvel should benefit from the publicity around the video and single

FOR THE COMPLETE COLLECTORS SERVICE

X-MEN INCOGNITO COMICS MARVEL COMICS

Kent's Leading Comic Book Specialists

THE SHOPS FOR TOTAL MARVEL MUTANT MAYHEM

TM & © 1994 MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP,INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Incognito Comic Shop
14 Starnes Court
Union Street
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1EB

Tel/Fax: 01622 683642

INCOGNITO for...
... a 100,000+ selection of back issues from the Golden Age to the present.
... Stockists of most popular S/F books & Merchandise.
... Plus a full range of comic bags, boxes, mylars and mylites.

Incognito Comic Shop
1-2 The Friars
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 2AS

Tel/Fax: 01227 785898

Open MON-FRI 10 'til 5.30, SAT 9 'til 5.30
Selling ? We're Always buying, so give us a call!

("Everybody Up") release on March 20. Art for the special is by Art Wetherell ('Glam Metal Detectives'), Matthew Taylor ('Betty's Mad Dash') and Lew Stringer ('Colin Corleone') along with back-up features lampooning a variety of magazines. The comic mimics the channel surfing of the TV show with strips and features in different styles - one, for instance, is printed in sepia - and is written by the shows producer and stars themselves with the aid of editor David Leach. Priced £1.25 for 32 pages, the title is expected to be top-shelved alongside the likes of Viz.

Glenn Dakin is the new editor of *The Exploits of Spider-Man*, which has a feature on Steve Ditko lined up.

Titan Books

Releases for April include the *Batman: Knightsend* collection wherein Bruce Wayne and Jean Paul Valley battle it out for the right to be Batman; *Bruce Lee* reprints the series by Mike Baron, Val Mayerik & James Sherman about the life of the martial artist; and *Judge Dredd: The Complete Judge Child Quest* is just what it says, in one bumper volume.

Viz

The governments latest hot-selling release, *Social Focus on Children*, has some interesting statistics. Apart from the fact that nearly a quarter of all 15-year-olds smoke and nearly a third have at least one alcoholic drink a week, 26% of boys aged 11-14 cite *Viz* as their favourite reading material, despite the fact that it's clearly labelled not for sale to children.

Cartoon Art Trust

The National Museum of Cartoon Art has moved from its home in Eversholt Street to a more central site at Baird House, 15-17 St. Cross Street, London EC1 8UN, just off Hatton Garden, and is now open Monday to Friday, 12-6pm. Again, the premises have been donated by Lynton plc. The opening exhibition is 'Giles: A Cartoonist Goes To War', a collection of some of Giles' best wartime cartoons which has already toured Europe. The British Council have prepared an illustrated catalogue, which is available by post for the inclusive price of £10.00. The exhibition runs to April 4.

Strictly Comics

Strictly Comics Postal Auctions are holding an auction at Memorabilia '95 on Sunday, May 7, at 2pm. Lots on offer include golden and silver age comics, Dell/Gold Key, signed artwork, a set of 1960s Batman trading cards, and a Dalek! For more details contact Dave Wignall, 20A Plantaganet Road, New Barnet, Herts EN5 5JG, or telephone 0181 447 1855.

JUDGE DREDD

Original Art

For Sale

Hundreds of pages of original art from the pages of 2000AD and Judge Dredd Megazine for sale

Prices from £15 per page

Also available lots of art prints by..
Frazetta, Wrightson, BW Smith, Olivia, Barks, Moebius, Bilal, Stevens, Kaluta, Bolton, Bolland, Bisley, Jones, Shirow, Otomo, Darrow
and many many more

Full list and details from

CONQUISTADOR
158 Kent House Road, Beckenham
Kent BR3 1JY Tel/fax 0181 659 9714
Mail order only
Supplying collectors worldwide since 1977

Mail Order CoBRA Protection

People and Publishing

Leo Baxendale's *Minnie the Minx meets the Bash Street Kids* exhibition will run at the Whitstable Museum and the Graphics Gallery, Templeman Library, University of Kent, Canterbury between from April 3 to June 2...

Smoke Damage writer **Warren Ellis** is back this month with another column, slotted into an increasingly busy schedule that includes a fill-in *Daredevil* (#343), the four-issue Druid, six issues of *Ultraforce*, a four-issue *Starjammers* mini-series, four issues of *Thor* and his regular monthly stint on *Excalibur and Doom 2099* (which will have **Steve Pugh** from #33). Adding to the workload is the ailing *Doctor Strange* from issue 80 (with art by **Mark Buckingham**) which has earned Warren the nickname of The Cleaner at Marvel. Personally he'd prefer Mr. Wolf...

Some Marvel artists have been fleeing the fold to work elsewhere during the throes of Marvelution because they've not been receiving scripts, we hear. DC have already announced that **Ron Lim** will be doing covers for them and at least one other artist has now accepted a Batman assignment which he'd previously turned down...

Meanwhile, this side of the pond...**Simon Jowett**, Bond scriptwriter and *Comic World* contributor, has joined Marvel UK...

Tim Quinn has resigned from Marvel UK to become editor-in-chief of a new comics line for independent publishers Northern & Shell. Quinn, who promotion of Marvel in the UK led to countless appearances on television (including a half-hour documentary on LWT's *Opening Shot* in 1993), and radio (including the *Spider-Man* serial on Radio 1) over the past three years. Northern & Shell publish a wide range of titles, from

OK to *Penthouse* and *Forum*. "The one kind of publication they haven't had," said Quinn, "are for kids and teenagers, so they have brought me in as editor-in-chief to create a whole new line of comicbooks and magazines..."

Classics International and Sears, Roebuck, and Company are in discussions over a comic venture, although no details are known. All CIE chairman Rich Berger would say is: "It is not the policy of CIE to release information about pending negotiations. However, we're compelled to confirm the existence of these particular negotiations due to inquiries from outside the company." After that, we can't wait to hear what all the secrecy is about...

Frank Robbins, the creator of the 'Johnny Hazzard' newspaper strip, died on November 28, 1994, at the age of 77. Born in Boston on September 9, 1917, Robbins won several art scholarships at school and a Rockerfeller grant at 15. He moved to New York where, in 1938, he was invited to draw the 'Scorchy Smith' comic strip, although his most famous creation would arrive during the war when 'Johnny Hazard', about a heroic American pilot, began syndication in 1944 through King Features; it ran until 1977. In the 1970s Robbins drew *Batman, Detective Comics* and *The Shadow* amongst others...

Artist **Peter Ledger**, who worked on Marvel's *Weirdworld* series in 1978, was killed in an auto accident on November 18, 1994. Born in Australia in 1945, Ledger moved to the USA in 1981. He was responsible for conceptual art on *Babylon 5* and numerous computer games...

"QUOTES"

"'Blackball Comics is shutting up shop,' - this according to publisher Dave Elliott, who cited changing market conditions as the reason for his company's demise." - *Diamond Dateline, 22 February 1995.*

"They said I was dead - actually they said *Radical Dreamer* was dead - but every time I heard it I felt like they were talking about my own death. They said Blackball Comics was out of business. None of it was true" - *Mark Wheatley, Comic Buyers Guide, 24 February 1995.*

"The book will be 48 pages with no ads - over *double* the story pages of a regular $1.95 X-MEN issue!" - *Marvel errata note to* Mega Marvel, *May 1995, for* X-Men: Prime, *priced $4.95.*

MEMORABILIA '95

Science Fiction Spectacular

Europe's largest Sci-fi, Film & Comic event, with top Dealers from the U.K. & Continent, as well as representation from major Fan Clubs, Auction, Displays & Signings

BIRMINGHAM - THE N.E.C.

6th & 7th MAY '95

Made in Heaven Present

GLASGOW - CITY HALLS

Saturday 27th May

10am to 5pm, Adults £3, Concessions £2

Star Wars
Star Trek
Dr Who
Anderson
Bond, Blakes 7
U.N.C.L.E, Terminator
Alien / Predator
Danger Man, Saint

Don't Miss it!!!

The Biggest Fair of the Year
Over 8,000 visitors at last years event

Comic Auction at Sunday event
Many Special Attractions
Star Signings
Displays from Fan Clubs & Collectors

This event features several hundred dealer and display stalls of the very best collectable items from the 1950's to the present day. Buy, sell and trade with Europe's top dealers & collectors. Free valuations from the experts. Many rare items & attractions on display. Dealer stalls from only £30 : Stall enquiries call 01462 - 683965 or 0860 - 683965(Mobile), or send a SAE for a Dealer Information pack to :

Made in Heaven, 216 Kristiansand Way, Letchworth, Herts, SG6 1TU

A WEEKEND OF MYSTIC FANTASY

- ENTER **THE WORLD** OF FANTASY
AND SCIENCE FICTION ENTERTAIMENT
AT EUROPE'S LARGEST GAMES CONVENTION
AND **ALL WILL BE REVEALED....**

EUROPEAN

27TH - 30TH APRIL 1995

TO FIND OUT MORE AND TO BE A PART OF THIS WEEKEND CONTACT
- TSR Limited, 120 Church End, Cherry Hinton,
Cambridge CB1 3LB, Engand
Tel: 01223 212517, International: 44-1223-212517
Fax: 01223 248066, International: 44-1223-248066

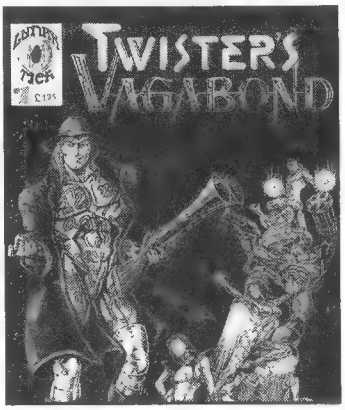
AN EXPERIENCE NOT TO BE MISSED!

GEN CON, the GEN CON Logo and the TSR logo are trademarks owned by TSR Inc. ©1995. All Rights Reserved

Twister's Vagabond

INTRIGUED BY THE TITLE? WARREN SMITH REVEALS HOW IT CAME TO BE

"The name of the comic is *Twister's Vagabond*, but for three-and-a-half years it was just called *Vagabond,"* says Warren Smith, sounding mightily ticked off as he continues, "but I found I couldn't use it because one of the major companies has an intention to publish a title called *Vagabond* and has had for a number of years, apparently. So we were told we couldn't use it, which floored me a bit. And that was a couple of weeks before going to print. Everything was done, the artwork, the lettering...in fact, the planet had a different name - it wasn't called Twister, it was called Midas and had a slightly different rationale behind it. I spent hours thinking *Well, what can I call it?* I mean, the character is a vagabond. I thought up all these different names, similes of 'vagabond' and none of them worked. So I thought, *Well, I'll call it 'Something' Vagabond,* because it *had* to be vagabond, and giving a name to the planet would apparently get over any problems. But *Midas World's Vagabond* didn't really cut it - it's a bit of a mouthful - so I had to think of a snappier word." Thankfully, despite having to re-letter many of the balloons, it's something he can now laugh about.



Twister's Vagabond scored quite a hit at 1994's UK Comic Art Convention, Warren and the Lunar Tick boys splashing out on a table in the publishers' room - which at the very least shows his faith in the comic they've been putting together: "It's one of a number of things I've done over the years, and it's one that, when I met Shaun [Bryan], he was particularly attracted to that character. I really wanted something, a character, that I thought had...legs...that could be ongoing."

His words might come as a surprise to those who have already seen the first issue, with its four short stories rather than one ongoing, continuous narrative.

"The second one kicks off a mini-series. In fact, there's a lot of interlinked mini-series, but with the first one I wanted it to be in a format that you can pick up and read and you'd get a few of the different Twister environments in one book, rather than starting off with a [mini-series] that's going to cost you ú12.00 before you've even seen the first issue."

The first issue also introduces quite a few different elements, like, the first story I would say is science fiction, the second story is very much an extended joke, the third is fantasy...so Warren's not channelling everything into one particular area. There's also the - not new, but still novel use of different artists for different stories: "I've been working with Shaun for a year or so now, and we both agreed that it would be a good idea, like for the fantasy story, to have another artist *[David Pinnell]*. It was an experiment. We were thinking *It's a totally different environment, we'll kick in another artist and see how it goes.* We might do it again, because a lot of these environments are different. They are, or will become, linked in a certain way. The idea is you can nip in and out of different stories and you don't have to know exactly what's going on with the planet."

Yeah...the planet. Twister is definitely something different: a planet where weird gravitational stresses have warped space into a number of weird ultra-dimensions; a thousand different planets at the same time, or...

"It's like a mass that seems planetoid with multiple gravities. I wanted to have an environment with planets within planets. People can say, realms or timezones, all sorts of different things, and I wanted something a bit different. What it is is lots of different gravity fields and matter that's all pulling apart. That's what the Twister stream is: chaotic matter being pulled into gravities and formed into some sort of environment. Now, as each one of these gravities is going to have different physical laws in the different gravity flows, matter will behave differently, and that's how you can have a fantasy environment where there are Gods and then you can pass through to an environment that's completely different, that will have different physical laws that mean Gods can't exist there. It means that native beings from one environment cannot pass into another one, because when you're born in one reality, your physical make-up is determined by that place. Gad's the only one who can do that. It's the only power he has: a unique navigational ability.

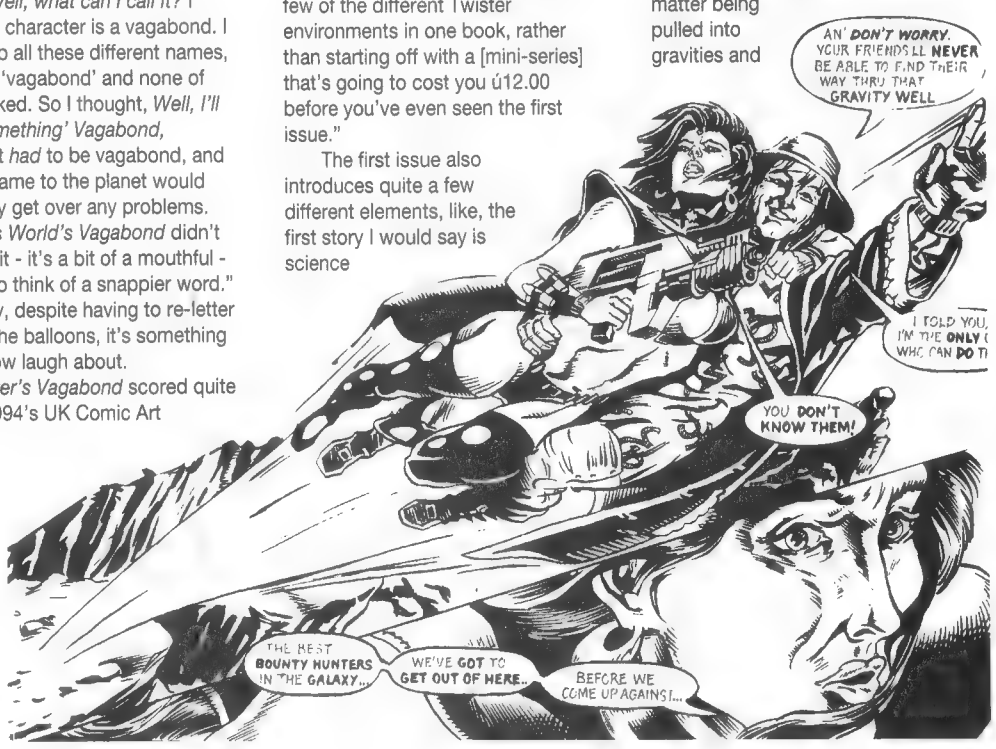
"It's like watching a *Dr Who* or a *Star Trek* episode," explains Warren. "You can go into an episode quite happily not knowing all of the background. It gives me a lot of imaginative freedom. It's the same character [throughout], by the way. Gad Shanks. It's quite interesting to move him into different environments and see how he reacts.

"I wanted him to be a travelling character, so Gad's a loner, he's the only one that can travel which is going to develop into part of this character because he's about 300-years-old; he stays young because he moves between these different space/time areas, so he doesn't age. You don't want your comic book character getting old, do you? So I created this sort of pseudo-scientific rationale which justifies the fact that he stays young and it also keeps him travelling, to stay young.

"And also, I suppose, if you had all these different places you could go to, that would *make* you restless. It would be like having a world ticket in your pocket.

With distribution through Diamond and Capital one of the problems sorted out at and soon after the convention, *Twister's Vagabond* is solicited this month for release in April, with Warren, Shaun and inker Jason Fletcher working on the first mini-series that will begin with issue two. Time then for one final question: just where did the name Lunar Tick come from?

"Right at the last minute after the mad experience of re-lettering all the bubbles and everything. We thought *Everything is done, now.* Then...*Hang on, we don't have a name!"* He laughs, but not the demented laugh of a lunatic. It's the laugh of someone relieved to see three and a half year's worth of effort coming together, and coming together well. CW


AN' DON'T WORRY. YOUR FRIENDS'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FIND THEIR WAY THRU THAT GRAVITY WELL
I TOLD YOU, I'M THE ONLY (WHO CAN DO T
YOU DON'T KNOW THEM!
THE BEST BOUNTY HUNTERS IN THE GALAXY...
WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE..
BEFORE WE COME UP AGAINST...

Warren Ellis'

Smoke damage

Normal service is resumed, for those who could give a toss.

Well...for the next little while, at least. I'm off to New York again in three days, for two back-to-back Marvel conferences. The first is the Marvel Edge confab - Marvel Edge being the group dealing with the supposed Hard And Gritty Loner Marvel characters. You've heard of most of 'em: The Punisher, Ghost Rider, Daredevil, The Hulk (somewhat by default, I think) and the new book I'm writing to replace *Druid* (which in itself replaced *Hellstorm*), Doctor Strange. All of the writers have been invited in, save for the Punisher writer; all three Punisher titles have been cancelled, to make way for a single new Punisher book, but they haven't found a writer yet.

We are there to "decide the architecture of the group," which I believe means arguing for the kinds of books we want to do. I'm there to try and create enough space to do the stories I want with Doctor Strange. Most people are leaning towards conservative with their planning these days, due to the market shrinking by roughly two-and-a-half percent per month. I have to stand up like a bloody fool and convince people that it's not conservatism, but risk-taking, that attracts people to comics. After all, the biggest sales of the year so far have been the X-books suspending publication for four months, which, in political/economic terms, was a remarkable end run around every tenet of received wisdom and market tradition. And it was a hit.

Let me give you a f'r'instance. *Excalibur #86*, the issue before the 'After Xavier' sequence, sold about 128,000 (itself a jump of 6,000 on the previous). The first 'After Xavier' issue sold about 290,000. The *third* 'After Xavier' book cleared 300,000. They're talking about a second printing of the first issue. *Excalibur* has always been a third-string X-book. It's now selling *Spawn* levels. There'll be a settledown after the crossover, sure, but, in four months of publishing, the X-books have reminded the market that they exist in a big way. They have dry-raped the direct sales market once again, and nothing will ever be the same...

And the second conference, running back-to-back, is the X-Men summit. Again, this is a space-clearing exercise, because there's an aspect of the crossover that still niggles me. I was hired onto *Excalibur* for one reason - to try and make people want to buy the bloody book. There's a lot of repair work to be done on this book. There are also fools to be kept at arm's length. I need about six clear months on that book to do as I will in order to get it roughly where I want it. And crossovers get in the way. Main plots have to be dropped to accommodate the crossover. And, as much as I appreciate the sales boost that'll get my ideas in front of an increased audience, if it happens *again*, then that book is sunk.

The biggest drawback to these conferences is...well, last time I attended a New York conference, I found it so screamingly dull that I said, Fuck this, and went shopping and drinking for two of the three days. We were on Manhattan, you see, and it was just to easy to piss off to the Blarney Stone with Garth and Gerry. This time, we are located in a Business Conference Centre in "scenic Glen Cove, Long Island." Allow me to translate: that's two rocks and some brown water, about ten miles walk on unmade road from the nearest sign of civilisation. I'm *trapped*.

Onto other matters. I have recently been exposed to the productions of the publisher Tekno Comix. Exposed - like that bit in *Edge of Darkness* where Joe Don Baker smashed two chunks of plutonium together in someone's face.

Now, on reading the following section, bear in mind that I get sent complimentary copies of Marvel's entire output each month. I have read *Sleepwalker*. I have read *Darkhawk*. Believe me, I know what Banal means. I know what Bad means. I have faced the enemy, and he is Crap. I have seen things you people couldn't imagine...

No-one in his right mind could possibly have published *Leonard Nimoy's PrimeMortals* and *Neil Gaiman's Mr. Hero*. This is *fin-de-siecle* hubristic madness at its most blistering. It is very wrong to describe the work therein as amateurish, as 'amateur' comics like Rol Hirst's *The Jock*, black and white photocopied books as opposed to computer-coloured, upscale printing, pisses all over these books from a great height. The Tekno books are simply frightfully *bad*. It doesn't feel right to demand that working professionals like Scot Eaton, Kate Worley, Lawrence Watt-Evans and the like should be taken out to a field, tied to spiked posts, and then whipped and mocked and beaten on the kidneys with oaken axehandles until they piss blood.

I mean, everyone has a bad day...but not all at once.

Still, it's been reported that some of the writer are walking off Tekno books due to a bizarre system of constantly rewriting the script right up until publication, like a working screenplay. And it's not the writers who are doing the rewrites. Which means that some half-bright monkey in Editorial, or perhaps Advertising or Coffee-Making, or Cleaning, is fucking about with some poor sod's words. This is bad. However, it offers no excuse for the truly dismal art splattered across these books (with the single honourable exception of the *Mr Hero* framing sequences executed by Bryan Talbot with Angus McKie, a similar act to laying gold leaf over dogshit). Scot Eaton, for instance, was never the world's best artist. I believe there were better choices for John Smith's eight issues of massively unrealised potential, the 'surrealist' superhero, *Scarab* (and there's probably a whole article to be had on how England's most promising writer pissed away a fine concept on half-arsed pastiches of other writers' styles and heartbreakingly slack storytelling, but I'm not writing it. His prose fiction is bloody good, though, and worth searching out). But Eaton plowed through with enthusiasm, and achieved fine images here and there. On *PrimeMortals*, Eaton's storytelling has collapsed, in favour of Image-style shots that impart no information and no emotional kick. The scratchy figurework and minimal backgrounds hold no inventiveness, no energy. It is some of the most meaningless art I've ever seen, an utter void with some dull colour slapped on top. Mind you, if I had to illustrate a superhero version of Eisner's *Signal From Space* with superhero-ey aliens and a bunch of human 'characters' lifted from the most banal TV movie you can imagine, maybe I'd fling my pencil about with a less than enthusiastic flourish, too.

Most people are hoping for a quick, clean death for Tekno. I don't think so. We don't get that lucky in comics. If God liked comics, he wouldn't have allowed *Cyberspace 3000*. I think it's going to be long and messy, and that this stuff is going to poison the stands for another year. Their very existence is quite plainly Wrong, but then, so is the existence of Michael Barrymore, mushy peas, and Australia.

Send 75p, which is inclusive of postage, to W.R. Hirst at Rushgrove Farm, Holt Head, Slaithwaite, Huddersfield, W. Yorks, HD7 5TY, for the latest issue of The Jock. Warren is in America and Niki is in Malta. Cheers.

More character scetches from Druid

MODEL KITS

IRIA 1/6 vinyl - from Zieram the Movie - 2 kits in one	£30.00
3x3 EYES - PAI - vinyl	£25.00
DEEDLIT 1:6 vinyl	£25.00
PROTECT GEAR (comic version) 1:6	£30.00
LUM 1:4 vinyl	£30.00
PRISS 1:6 vinyl	£25.00
STREETFIGHTER (deformed set of 12)	£12.00
GUNBUSTER	£25.00
WORF 1:6 vinyl	£25 00
STORMTROOPER 1:6 vinyl	£22.00
LUM & FOX (mini models) Resin	£14.00
DIRTY PAIR - KEI or YUI - Resin	£49.00
CAMMY - Standing pose - Resin	£40.00
RANMA 1/2 - SHAMPOO, RANMA, AKANE - Resin	£35.00
GUYVER 1,11 and 111 1/6 scale Vinyl	£15.00

All kits plus £3.00 postage.
Please send for illustrated kit list (over 400 models available).

COMICS

GHOST IN THE SHELL (1/3)
STAINLESS STEEL ARMADILLOS (1/6)
GALL FORCE - THE ETERNAL STORY (1/6)
OH! MY GODDESS (2/6)
RAMNA Vol.4
LA BLUE GIRL
NUKU NUKU
(Please call with your requirements)

TRADING CARDS - Call for requirements.

BOOKS/GRAPHIC NOVELS

'THE COMIC BOOK'
Over 340 pages of essential information for all comic fans
Hardback - £19.99 + p/p £2.00
'AKIRA' - Graphic Novel
Issue No.1 from Katsuhiro Otomo
360 pages - A must for all Akira fans - £10.99 + p/p £1.50
Akira related kits also available - please ask for details
'STAR TREK ENCYCLOPEDIA'
'A reference guide to the future' - 400 pages
£12.99 + p/p £2.00

BELLDANDY
1:5 vinyl - £22.00 + p/p £3.00

Enquiries/Cheques,P.Orders to: J. MURPHY,
The Annexe, The Hollies, Eridge Green, Tunbridge Wells, KENT, TN3 9JU
Telephone/Fax: 0892 861117

Please Make all Cheques/P.O.'s payable to:

ANTHONY LEE

Send all orders to:

DISCOUNT TRADING CARDS
18 Birch Avenue, Romiley, Stockport SK6 4DG
Phone/Fax: 0161-494-8369

LIMITED QUANTITIES AVAILABLE!
PLEASE HURRY!
Are just £24.95 plus postage and packing
COVER ARTIST MIRAN KIM)
STEFAN PETRUCHA AND
SIGNED COPIES (BY BOTH THE WRITER

Plus £1.00 postage and packing.

READERS AT £14.95
ARE AVAILABLE TO COMIC WORLD
COPIES OF TOPPS COMICS X-FILES 1

SPECIAL OFFER

Sandman Morpheus Hologram	Just £39.95
Sandman Endless Gallery	Just £14.95
Lady Death Mystery Card	Just £9.95
Lady Death Chase Cards	Just £6.95
Star Trek Skymotion Redemption Card	Just £35.00
Star Trek Skymotion Card	Just £60.00
DC Vertigo Death (oversized) Skydisc	Just £55.00
DC Superman Man of Steel (oversized) Skydisc	Just £75.00

SCARCE CARDS ARE BACK IN STOCK!!

Cheques Payable To:

ANTHONY LEE

DISCOUNT TRADING CARDS
18 Birch Avenue, Romiley, Stockport SK6 4DG
Phone/Fax: 0161-494-8369
POSTAGE £1 PER SET – 10 PER CARD. MIN. POSTAGE 25P

THOUSANDS MORE CARDS AVAILABLE – JUST PHONE OR WRITE FOR A FREE LIST – NO S.A.E. REQUIRED!

Title	Full Set	Specials	
Aliens/Predator	£8.95	£7	
Dr Who Series II	£10.95	£6/£1.50	
Hitchhikers Guide/Galaxy	£11.95	£4.50/£8	
Jack Kirby Archives	£7.95	£5/£7	
Jack Kirby Comic Art	£4.50	£5	
Joe Jusko	£11.95	£6	*PLEASE*
The Lion King	£10.95	£5/£6	*CALL*
The Lion King II	£9.95	£15/£6/£4	*OR*
Mars Attacks	£19.95	£6/£1.50	*WRITE*
Marvel Flair Cards '94	£49.95	£5/£10	*FOR*
Gold Signature Cards	£99.95		*FULL DETAILS*
The Mask (Movie)	£11.95	£6	*OF*
Robot Carnival	£7.95	£4.50	*CHASE*
Simpsons Series 2	£9.95	£3	*CARDS*
Spiderman (Fleer)	£14.95	£5/£2.50	*IN*
Star Trek DS9 Boxed Set	£5.95		*STOCK*
Star Trek Generations	£11.95	£5/£3	*AND*
Star Trek Next Generation Episodes II	Call for Prices		*PRICES*
Customizable Card Game	Call for Prices		
Star Trek Masterpieces	£11.95	£6	
Star Wars Galaxy II	£11.95	£6	
Star Wars Widevision (oversized)	£15.95	£12	
Vertigo (Oversized)	£14.95	£15/£55	
Wildcats '94 (Oversized)	£19.95	£6/£9	
Wildstorm	£25.95	£7/£25	
X-Men 1995	£14.95	£1.50/£3/£6	

DISCOUNT TRADING CARDS

STRICTLY COMICS AUCTIONS

PRESENTS

AN AUCTION OF COMICS AND RELATED MATERIAL

at

MEMORABILIA '95

7th May 1995
Bidding commences 2:00pm

Lots include:-

- Golden/Silver Age Comics
- 1960s Batman Trading Cards
  (Red & Black Bat Sets)
- Signed Comics
- Dell/Gold key
- Signed Original Artwork
  (including full-colour Judge Dread Pages)
- Full-size 1970s TV Dalek

Viewing of Lots
from 10am - 5pm, 6th May,
& 10am until bidding
commences
2:00pm, 7th May

For entering items in sale & postal bid information telephone our Hot Line 0181-447-1855

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

build that fan-base further, in Britain, we can hardly complain of having too many titles on the news-stands. The usual complaint here, astonishingly, is the lack of titles! Comics have always been a traditionally cheap form of entertainment, turned out by letterpress onto low-grade paper (unless you're thinking of something like the mighty Eagle and other gravure magazines). The "hatch, match and dispatch" attitude to comics in the 1960s probably caused much of the decline in sales towards the end of that decade, and there has been a steady fall in the number of titles produced over the past twenty years. The problem, and this goes for a lot of magazine titles as well, is the very fact that comics are what they are: cheap entertainment. Britain - once described as a nation of shopkeepers - basically has a distribution network controlled by W.H. Smiths and John Menzies. If Smiths had not accepted Comic World back in 1991, the magazine would not exist because for a magazine publisher like Aceville, who at the time had no knowledge of the direct market, if Smiths turn it down the magazine is usually too risky to chance publishing.

Sales of comics have declined, but it's the "cheap entertainment" aspect that now plays a more vital role in decisions whether to stock and where to position comics. They're (relatively) cheap and they don't sell in vast numbers, and to a shop the bottom line is that they don't make much profit. The space they take up is better used on an expensive, glossy, computer magazine which will make the shop more profit, so a shop will not stock many titles, and they'll certainly not be given the counter space the latest fashion mag gets.

In a perverse way, comics are victims of their own intentions. You try to entertain cheaply and nobody want to know; push up the price to get better exposure, and you're too expensive. If someone can get the industry out of that vicious little circle, they'll be onto a winner.

Steve

Here, Say

Send your comments and queries to **Comic World**, Castle House, 97 High Street, Colchester, Essex CO11TH

MY TROUBLES WITH CUSTOMS

Knockabout Comics
London W10

HM Customs have just seized for forfeiture 500 copies of My Troubles With Women by Robert Crumb. Knockabout published My Troubles With Women in the UK in 1990. We had run out of stock so we decided to import copies that were still unsold in the USA. These arrived at Heathrow airport in late January and were pulled for inspection by Customs. They object to 2 panels, out of 509 in this 80 page book, and we now have to contest its forfeiture in Court at some time in the future.

R. Crumb is the best known of the 'Underground' cartoonists. His 1967 Zap Comix started the genre of creator controlled comics where artists could write and draw from their own experiences and imaginations outside the 'work for hire' system prevailing throughout the mainstream comic industry. His work has remained popular and influential for the past 30 years. His character 'Fritz the Cat' was made into 2 animated films. In 1988 BBC TV produced an hour long Arena programme on Crumb and his obsessions with women and music. One of his music strips, Jelly Roll Morton's Voodoo Curse was adapted for Television in 1993. Liberation, the French national daily newspaper, ran a half page comic strip of Crumb's in 1994. His work has been featured in The Independent, The Washington Post and other prestigious newspapers and magazines worldwide. Retrospective exhibitions of his work have been held in America, Holland and at the National Centre for Comics in France. Currently there is a film about his life called Crumb which has just won the prize for best documentary at the Sundance Film Festival.

We have argued that this book has been on sale for 5 years in shops such as Waterstones, Dillons and Blackwells as well as the specialist comic stores. The contents of the book were all taken from other comics we have imported for some years, namely Zap, Weirdo and Hup; in fact all the original material for My Troubles With Women was taken from comics which had been inspected and passed by HM Customs on several occasions in the past. We have correspondence with Customs from 1988, 1989 and 1991 agreeing with us to import all these titles on the grounds that they have artistic merit and are not publications designed for sexual titillation.

Also seized for forfeiture in this same shipment was 1 copy of Zap #7 (sent to replace a damaged copy). This same comic was in another shipment at the end of December which was also opened and inspected by Customs at Heathrow airport but on this occasion cleared to us. So between December 21st 1994 and January 26th 1995, this comic became liable to seizure even though its content hadn't changed for the previous 20 years!

We shall be vigorously contesting the seizure of both My Troubles With Women and Zap #7 in court not only on the grounds of artistic merit but also because we have had written permission on several occasions in the past from HM Customs to import all these comic strips. Not to mention that Zap #7 was inspected and cleared 1 month before its seizure.

In the meantime, we have paid ú325 storage fees for the other books on this shipment that were released to us on February 21st. We lose both ways. Cleared books we have to pay rent for while they are being inspected and previously cleared books we now have to fight for in court. Of course, we still have to pay our supplier for the books and the freight charges.

The Customs officer dealing with the seizures is Mr. Martin, Entry Processing District 1, HM Customs & Excise, Wayfarer House, Great South West Road, Feltham, Middlesex TW14 8NP. He can be contacted by phone on 0181 910 3086.

Jim Harvey
Leicester

Dear Steve,
I don't know what Valiant are up to, publishing their comics fortnightly when the industry is already publishing too many. The idea of limiting numbers, as Marvel seem to be doing, and concentrating on producing fewer, better issues, seems to be the only way forward. Doubling the number of issues you put out a month won't help the industry get out of the slump it's in. Are we, the readers, the only ones who can see that?

Frank Ashley
London SE9

Dear Comic World,
The Judge Dredd movie coverage has been brilliant so far, but why no interviews with Stallone or any of the actors and actresses? Why no interview with Danny Cannon?

We've quite a few interviews in the bag already, which we'll run closer to the release date in July. But we knew that the film was generating a lot of interest - you'd have to be blind not to have seen the trailers and interviews that have appeared all over the place. We've tried to run material that you won't find anywhere else, the pre-production sketches and designs for instance. And we were the first magazine anywhere to have a Stallone/Dredd cover, scooping even the Judge Dredd Megazine.

Cameron Montgomery
Guidford, Kent

Dear Comic World,
I was very saddened to hear of the death of Tony Weare as I remember his "Matt Marriott" strips in the Evening News fondly. Thanks for giving him the coverage you did. How about more features on classic British artists? You're a British magazine, after all.

Trying to keep a balance of material is murderous: you can't please all the people all the time. We think we've got it right, but we don't know unless YOU write in and tell us one way or the other. Let us know what features YOU would like to see?

DIRECT MARKET • DIRECT MARKET

BEDFORDSHIRE

Comics Unlimited
The Comic Specialists
Mail Order Services available
US IMPORTS - MANGA VIDEOS - RPG'S WARGAMES - PAPERBACK BOOKS - T-SHIRTS - TRADING CARDS - AS WELL AS STAR TREK & STAR WARS MERCHANDISE.
4 CLAIR COURT, LIME STREET, BEDS MK40 1NH. TEL: 0234 218984

BELFAST N.I.

DARK HORIZONS
30a, Chichester Street,
Belfast BT1 4LD
Imports, back issues, small press, independants, British, underground, Graphic Novels, standing order service, subculture and film mags.
Open Mon–Sat 10–5.30
TEL: 0232 233808

BERKSHIRE

SEGA
SLOUGH
COMPUTERS
BEST COMIC PRICES IN THE AREA
HUNDREDS SECONDHAND AND IMPORT GAME CARTRIDGES
MARVEL & DC INDEPENDANTS GRAPHIC NOVELS
285 HIGH STREET, SLOUGH, BERKS, SL1 1BN

UNIVERSAL COMICS

COMICS, SCI-FI, & FANTASY STORE
196c HIGH STREET, SLOUGH (Above Currys) **0753 571799**

Orcs Nest
Orcs Nest Megastore sells
COMICS
Novels, Models, Games and Miniatures at 4 Old Crown, Windsor Road
Slough
Tel: 0753 576457

CHESHIRE

TIME ZONE
Comics ● Posters ● Trading Cards and lots more
3 Academy Place, Warrington, Cheshire WA1 2NR
Tel: (01925) 651185
Opening hours 9.30am 5.30pm Monday-Saturday
COMICS WANTED
BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE

DERBYSHIRE

IN-TANGO
COMICS 'N' THINGS
Unit 5, Old Blacksmith Yard,
Sadlergate, Derby DE1 3PD
. . . In the heart of Derby . . .
★ MARVEL ★ DC ★ IMAGE ★
★ VALIANT ★ INDEPENDENTS ★
TRADING CARDS & ALL OTHER COMIC PERIPHERALS
TEL: 0332 203717

DEVON

Purple Haze
58 Eastlake Walk, Drake Circus,
Plymouth, Devon PL1 1BX
TEL: 0752 254136
Two floors crammed with American Comics, Marvel, DC, and Independents, plus a huge selection of back issues, graphics, Star Wars, Star Trek, Dr Who, TV and Film collectables. We also stock an extensive range of Model Kits, Posters, T-Shirts, Trading Cards and Videos, plus a wide range of CDs, Records and Tapes covering all tastes.
Mail Order and Standing Order
Access & Visa accepted · Fast, Friendly Service
Always buying and trading
PLYMOUTH'S PREMIER COLLECTORS SHOP!

KRACKERS GAMES SHOP
1-5 Fore Street Centre, Fore Street Exeter, Devon EX4 3AN
Comics ● Model Kits ● Role Playing Games ● Lead Figures ● Anime Videos ● Model Car Kits ● Sci-Fi/Horror Kits
RESERVATION SERVICE AVAILABLE
0392 425248

American GRAFFITI
● THE ● COMICS ● SPECIALIST ●
LATEST IMPORTS · BACK ISSUES
MANGA VIDEOS · TRADING CARDS · STANDING ORDERS AVAILABLE
TEL: 0271 25740
78 Church Lane, Barnstaple, North Devon EX31 1BN

KATHIE'S COMICS
20 Market Avenue, Plymouth PL1 1PH
EXCELLENT SERVICE
Tel: 0752 257800
Fax: 0752 250238

DORSET

PARADOX
Comics 'n' stuff
Latest Imports · Back Issues
Friendly Service and more
103 Old Town Market, Dear Hay Lane, Poole, Dorset BH15 1NZ
Tel: 0202 661346

DUBLIN

SUB CITY
COMICS & SCI-FI
Sub City, 2 Exchequer Street, Dublin 2, Ireland.
New Import Comics · Marvel, DC, Image etc. Thousands of Back Issues, Graphic Novels, Paperbacks, Star Trek, Memorabilia, Standing Order Service available. Open 7 days a week.

ESSEX

ACE COMICS
Celebrating 12 years of Excellence!
UNBEATABLE ADVANCE ORDER SERVICE
Tel: 0206 561912
1 Headgate Buildings, St. John's Street, Colchester, Essex CO2 7AD

CARTOON SHOP
Imports, back issues, independents, British comics, RPG's, merchandise and graphic novels.
WE'VE MOVED TO
22 Southernhay, Basildon, Essex SS14 1EL
TEL: 0268 534194
Open Mon-Sat 9.30 - 5.30
ALSO AT:
368 Chartwell West, Top Floor, Victoria Circus Shopping Centre, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS2 5SW
Tel: 0702 613021
Open Mon-Wed & Sat 10-6, Thur-Fri 10-8

Unit 627, Lakeside Pavilion, Lakeside Shopping Centre, West Thurrock, Essex. Tel: 0708 862675.
For the latest Marvel, DC, Valiant, Image, Dark Horse, Malibu. A wide selection of Graphic Novels (including American imports) and selected Role-Playing games. Open 10-8M-Th, 10-9F, 9-7.30 Sat. Open Sundays from 28th August.
legend COMICS

ATOMIC COMICS
AMERICAN COMICS SPECIALIST
Science Fiction and Fantasy
BOOKS · MODELS · VIDEOS · TRADING CARDS
1112 High Road, Chadwell Heath, Romford, Essex RM6 4AH
Tel: 0181 597 8547
Open: Mon-Sat 10-6pm, Fri till 7pm

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

THE HOBBIT HOLE
SCI FI; FANTASY; HORROR; MANGA; TV & FILM.
BOOKS; COMICS; MAGAZINES
T-SHIRTS; MODELS; POSTERS.
R.P.G. & METAL FIGURES
9 COMMERCIAL ROAD
GLOUCESTER GL1 2DY
Telephone: 0452 309533
Open Mon. 12–5.30
Tues–Sat 10–5.30

DEMON COMICS
102 Eastgate Street
Gloucester
Tel: 0452 330370
★ *Latest Imports* ★ *1000s of back issues* ★
★ *Trading cards – odds, sets and chase cards* ★
★ *Merchandise* ★ *Manga* ★ *Toys* ★ *Videos* ★
★ *Star Wars* ★ *2000AD* ★ *Models* ★ *RPG's* ★
★ *Tattoo mags* ★ *Fantasy Art books* ★ *T-shirts* ★
plus loads, loads more!

DEMON COMICS
72 Commercial Road
Hereford
Tel: 0432 358355
★ *Latest Imports* ★ *1000s of back issues* ★
★ *Trading cards – odds, sets and chase cards* ★
★ *Merchandise* ★ *Manga* ★ *Toys* ★ *Videos* ★
★ *Star Wars* ★ *2000AD* ★ *Models* ★ *RPG's* ★
★ *Tattoo mags* ★ *Fantasy Art books* ★ *T-shirts* ★
plus loads, loads more!

HAMPSHIRE

COMICS PLUS
A BIG SELECTION
of US & UK Comics old & new
plus graphic novels, trading cards, film stills, posters, T-shirts . . .
phone or mail order 0252 343543
185 Victoria Road
ALDERSHOT GU11 1JU
Open six days a week

HERTFORDSHIRE

Comics Unlimited
The Comic Specialists
Mail Order Services available
US IMPORTS - MANGA VIDEOS - RPG'S WARGAMES - PAPERBACK BOOKS - T-SHIRTS - TRADING CARDS - AS WELL AS STAR TREK & STAR WARS MERCHANDISE.
Unit 11, The Arcade, Letchworth, Herts SG6 3ET
0462 480018

CHAOS CITY COMICS
Unit 36, The Inshops, The Maltings, St Albans, Hertfordshire.
Tel: 0727 838719
Specialists in Silver Age, Bronze Age, Key Issues and Imports.

DIRECT MARKET • DIRECT MARKET

HERTFORDSHIRE

Comics Unlimited
The Comic Specialists
Mail Order Services available
US IMPORTS - MANGA VIDEOS - RPG'S WARGAMES - PAPERBACK BOOKS - T-SHIRTS - TRADING CARDS - AS WELL AS STAR TREK & STAR WARS MERCHANDISE.
26 TOWN CENTRE, HATFIELD, HERTS AL10 0LD
0707 256788

ISLE OF WIGHT

ASTOUNDING COMICS
Comics, Back Issues, Graphic Novels, Models, T-shirts, R.P.G.'s, Manga Videos, Posters & Paperbacks
61 PYLE STREET, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT PO30 1UL
Tel: 0983 525320
Open Mon-Sat 9.30-5.30

KENT

WHATEVER COMICS
2 BURGATE LANE
CANTERBURY, KENT CT2 2HH
Telephone: 0227 453226
Open Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm
Imports twice weekly. 50,000+ back issues in stock. Merchandise, Trading Cards and much more.

FOR THE COMPLETE COLLECTORS SERVICE THE
INCOGNITO
COMIC SHOP
Kent's Leading American Comic Book Specialists
14 Starnes Court, Union Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1EB. Tel: (0622) 683642
Also at: **1-2 The Friars, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2AS. Tel: (0277) 785898**
Open Mon-Fri 10 til 6, Sat 9 til 6

TIME TREK
Bromley's Specialist Shop
American comics new/thousands of back issues, bags, boxes, backing boards etc. Posters, annuals, paperbacks, T-shirts, videos, Manga, Animé, records, trading cards, sleeves. TV, film, SF, related kits, toys, collectables, memorabilia.
Everything for the collector
46 HIGH ST, BROMLEY, KENT BR1 1EG
Open Mon-Sat 9.30-5.30, Thurs until 8pm
081 313 0677
Near Bromley South Station

LANCASHIRE

THE FORTRESS
Latest American Comics Imports
1000's of Back Issues
DC, Marvel, Image, Dark Horse, Manga etc. Graphic Novels; Magazines, Sci-fi, Film and TV.
Trading Cards and Manga Videos
c/o Astonishing Sounds
3 Hall Street, Burnley BB11 1QJ
Tel: 0282 455339

PLANET EATER
5/7 UNION ST, SOUTHPORT
TEL: 0704 548629
THE NORTH'S HOTTEST NEW VENUE FOR IMPORT COMICS, MODEL KITS, ACTION FIGURES, TRADING CARDS · STAR TREK COLLECTABLES

THUNDERBOOKS I
Lancashire's premier specialist science fiction & comic stores
332 LYTHAM ROAD
BLACKPOOL LANCS FY4 1DW
Phone 01253 48321 Fax 01253 407813
Mail Order 01253 400321
For all your special requirements especially T.V. memorabilia

NOW OPEN
FANTASY UNLIMITED
Bolton's newest place for all kinds of Science Fiction & Fantasy Material
7 BOWKERS ROW
ST. ANDREWS COURT,
BOLTON, LANCS.

THUNDERBOOKS II
116 Friargate, Preston
Lancs PR1 2EE
Phone 01772 204287
Especially for Role Playing Games

LEICESTERSHIRE

Another World
23 Silver Street, Leicester
We are big on space and have city centre position. As well as stocking advance import comics and back issues, comic trades, kits etc, we also stock role-playing games, rock T-shirts, sci-fi, fantasy and horror paperbacks, and trade paperbacks on the unusual, the bizarre and the paranormal.
(0533) 515266

LONDON

ComicBase
FOR THE COMMODORE AMIGA
COMPATIBLE ALL AMIGAS WORKBENCH V2 AND ABOVE
* Catalogue your collection with this easy to use software.
* Use the list of built in Titles to speed up data entry.
* Print out lists and keep track of your collection.
* Use the simple searching facility to locate a comic.
Available for **£19-95** from :-
Or send S.A.E for more details.
[Cheques payable to Dan Winfield]
Dan Winfield
25 Goldhurst Terrace
Swiss Cottage
London, NW6 3HR

KNOCKABOUT
COMICS
10 ACKLAM ROAD, LONDON W10 5QZ
Tel. 081-969 2945
Freak Brothers, US Undergrounds, Graphic Novels, T-Shirts, Postcards and assorted weird stuff. Send for free illustrated catalogue.

THEY WALK AMONGUS
32 UNION COURT SHEEN ROAD
RICHMOND SURREY TW9 1AA
PHONE/FAX 081-948 8476
1,000's of Old & New Comics, Bags, Boards, Cards, T-Shirts etc.
Mon-Sat 9.30-5.30
& A NIFTY ADVANCE ORDER SERVICE TOO!!

BEYOND COMICS AND BOOKS
76 Harlescott Road, Nunhead, London SE15 3BZ
Please send an SAE for
MARVEL, DC & INDEPENDENT
All the latest US import comics available.
Thousands of back issues, Trading cards, and all other related merchandise.
Please send for specific lists.
£2.00 for Previews.
Mail Order at present only.
071 639 7171

FORBIDDEN PLANET MAIL ORDER
● **Advance Imports**
Send sae for free Comics and Film & TV catalogue
● **Star Trek catalogue**
● **Home Shopping**
Over 30,000 items in stock
● **Subscription Service**
Over 15 years' experience
71 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1DG · Tel: 071 497 2150

GOLD, SILVER & BRONZE COMICS
3 Derwent Court, Cecile Park, LONDON N8 9AT
TEL: 071 354 4477 Weekdays 6-8pm
★ 1000's Marvel, DC & Independents 1934-1994
★ Golden Age, Silver Age and Hot Books, all grades
★ Specialists IN ND rare and key book material
★ Well below Guide prices ★ Very accurate grading ★ Wants Lists welcome
★ Phone/write for full bumper free list C. & Independents 1934-1994
★ Golden Age, Silver Age.

Kent Comics
Specialists in Silver Age to Present Day Comics
Collections wanted
– Good prices paid
MAIL ORDER ONLY
Send 9"×6" SAE for catalogue
1 ERMINGTON ROAD, NEW ELTHAM, LONDON SE9 3RR.
Tel: 081-850 5779

AVALON COMICS
143 Lavender Hill, Battersea, London SW11 Tel: 071-924 3609
5 mins from Clapham Junction
IMPORTS, 50,000 BACK ISSUES, MERCHANDISE, FAIR PRICES
LATE NIGHT FRIDAY TILL 7pm

MEGA CITY COMICS
18 INVERNESS STREET, CAMDEN TOWN
LONDON NW1 7HJ TEL (071) 485 9320
Open 7 days a week
Send 2 first class stamps for catalogue

MANCHESTER

ODYSSEY 7
AMERICAN COMICS, LATEST IMPORTS TO BACK ISSUES, GRAPHIC NOVELS, SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY/HORROR NOVELS, FILM/TV BOOKS, MAGAZINES, STILLS VIDEOS, T-SHIRTS, TRADING CARDS, ACTION FIGURES, POSTERS, POSTCARDS.
Precinct Centre, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9RN. Tel: 061 273 6666
Opposite RNCN.

ODYSSEY 7
AMERICAN COMICS, LATEST IMPORTS TO BACK ISSUES, GRAPHIC NOVELS, SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY/HORROR NOVELS, FILM/TV BOOKS, MAGAZINES, STILLS VIDEOS, T-SHIRTS, TRADING CARDS, ACTION FIGURES, POSTERS, POSTCARDS.
21 Hanging Ditch, corn Exchange Bldgs, Manchester M4 3ES. Tel: 061 832 7044
Opposite Arndale Centre.

MERSEYSIDE

FIRST CHOICE CARDS
11 Keith Avenue, Liverpool L4 5SL
Mobile: (0831) 765811
Trading Card Supplies from a single card to complete sets available, plus chase cards & peripherals
SEND WANTS LIST & SAE FOR PRICE LIST

FORBIDDEN PLANET
now in LIVERPOOL
Comics · SF · Fantasy · Horror Graphic Novels · T-Shirts · Film/TV Books · Videos · Model Kits · Toys
92 Bold Street, Liverpool L1 4HR
Tel/Fax – 051 707 1491

MIDDLESEX

Going Crazy??
Looked everywhere and still can't find that comic ??!!
Relax !!! . . .
Just kick back and call Fran at
Blue Silver
on **081 991 5747**
PS: Comics also wanted.

DIRECT MARKET • DIRECT MARKET

FILL THE VOID
IN YOUR COMIC COLLECTION
ACROSS THE VOID
Mail Order
MARVEL, DC and INDEPENENTS.
Competative Prices, Quality Assured.
Extensive Back Issues, Imports, Archival Supplies.
Telephone: **081 807 6269**

purveyors of . .the weird, the bizarre, comics, graphic novels, sci-fi, horror, film merchandise, videos, models, T-shirts, role playing games.
Opium 9
9 Rosemount Viaduct ABERDEEN
Tel: 624467
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

"Say dude! . . . have you missed out on those hot import and back issue or Silver age titles again? Why not do what I do? Just ring Paul at **Hybrid Comics on 081-896 1562** for an advance order and back issue selection that's so wicked your mum would make you go to Confession if she knew about it!!!"

DEAD HEAD COMICS
27 Candlemaker Row, Edinburgh EH1 2QG
NEW' AMERICAN IMPORTS, 2000AD, FANZINES, STANDING ORDER SERVICE, EXTENSIVE BACK ISSUES
Tel: 031 226 2774
Open Mon-Sat 10-6, Sun 1-5

JUST COMICS
S.A.E. (29p stamp) for mammoth catalogue of 125,000 Comic Books
MARVEL · DC · INDEPENDENTS
includes comic supplies: bags, boxes, backer boards, mylars, etc . . .
MAIL ORDER ONLY
The Comics Mail Order Specialist
(Justin Ebbs) Just Comics
2 Crossmead Avenue, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 9TY

SHEFFIELD

OVER THE EDGE
starring
★ *Biggest choice of Comic titles*
★ *Marvel, DC and Independents*
★ *Graphic Novels, Magazines, Books, Trading Cards, Models, Stills, Poster, T-Shirts, Anime, Movie & Rock 'n' Pop Memorabilia, Autographs etc.*
First Floor, The Forum, Devonshire Street, Sheffield.
Open Mon-Sat

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Another World
11 Market Street, Nottingham
We are big on space and have city centre position. As well as stocking advance import comics and back issues, comic trades, kits etc, we also stock role-playing games, rock T-shirts, sci-fi, fantasy and horror paperbacks, and trade paperbacks on the unusual, the bizarre and the paranormal.
(0602) 484122

SHROPSHIRE

TIME ZONE
Comics ● Posters ● Trading Cards and lots more
To receive our next Mail Order Catalogue please send two first class stamps or £2 if 'Previews' is required
12 Fish Street, Shrewsbury
Shropshire SY1 1UR
Tel: 01743 365192
Open 10-6, Mon-Sat
COMICS WANTED
BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE

STAFFORDSHIRE

FantasyWorld
10 Market Square Arcade, Hanley, Stoke On Trent, Staffs ST1 1NU
We are big on space and have city centre position. As well as stocking advance import comics and back issues, comic trades, kits etc., we also stock role-playing games, rock T-shirts, sci-fi, fantasy and horror paperbacks, and trade paperbacks on the unusual, the bizarre and the paranormal.
Mail Order Advance & Back Issue Catalogue available. Send SAE for details.
(0782) 279294

SCOTLAND

***Red Hot Comics* (Mail Order)**
"Hot" Comics; Comic finding specialist: Advance Imports
42 Berridale Avenue. Cathcart, Glasgow G44 3AE
☎ 0141-637 0162
7 days a week
Check out our *Comic World Mart List* in this issue
You've tried the lot, now use ***Red Hot!***

TENEBRE
THE ALTERNATIVE COMIC SHOP
25 Orchard Street, Falkirk, Scotland.
Tel: (01324) 638631
Specialists in obscure Mature Readers, Independents, New Imports, D.C., Marvel, Back Issues, Silver Age, All Anime releases, Scotlands, First Eastern Heroes stockists, Hong Kong action videos, posters and mags.
STANDING ORDER SERVICE AVAILABLE

WALES

anime PROJECTS
19 High Street, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 1NP
Your source for all things Japanese!
Manga Comics from Viz, Dark Horse, Antarctic, Malibu and others, Anime Videos from all the UK suppliers, Soundtrack CDs, Laserdiscs, T-Shirts, Model Kits, Modeling Supplies, Art Books, Trading Cards, Magazines, Original Cells, Posters, and Much More!
Worldwide Mail Order service send SAE for catalogue All major Credit/Debit cards accepted
(0248) 370044

WEST MIDLANDS

ARRIVAL - (Comics & Books)
2 Broad St, Wolverhampton WV1 1HP
Tel: 0902 313660
Prop. M.J. Shipley
Open 6 days – 9.30am to 5.30pm
Stockists of:
American Comics – Marvel – DC etc. · All the latest imports & back issues · British Comics inc. Beano & Dandy · Childrens Annuals inc. Rupert · Films Books & Magazines · Graphic Novels · Horror Magazines & Books · Paperbacks inc. Science Fiction · TV Related books etc. · Vintage Glamour Magazines · Vintage Pop Magazines
Mail Order Welcome

WILTSHIRE

ZARDOZ BOOKS
Regular catalogues on secondhand & collectable Paperback & Pulp, TV/Film spin offs, Crime, SF, Horror, Sleaze etc.
PUBLISHERS OF PAPERBACK, PULP & COMIC COLLECTOR
Mail Order of US books & magazines relating to book collecting, TV & film spin offs, sci-fi, comics, Price Guides.
SAE for details to ZARDOZ BOOKS
20 Whitecroft, Dilton Marsh, Westbury, Wiltshire BA13 4DJ

YORKSHIRE

DELLS COMIC SHOP
5 Duke Street, Bradford BD1 3QR
Tel: 0274 390541
American imports twice weekly.
Back issues –
Star Trek magazines,
Dr Who magazines.
Horror Masks, Models.
Graphic Novels. Trading Cards.

YORKSHIRE

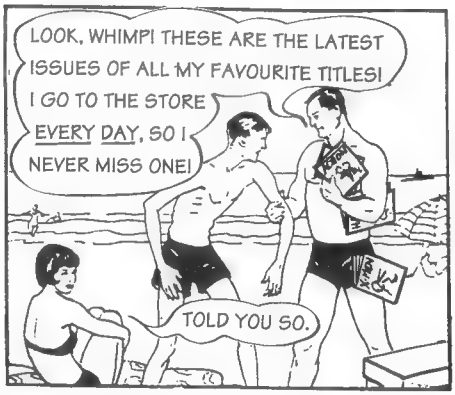
The Last Picture Show
starring
★ *Biggest choice of Comic titles*
★ *Marvel, DC and Independents*
★ *Graphic Novels, Magazines, Books, Trading Cards, Models, Stills, Poster, T-shirts, Anime, Movie & Rock 'n' Pop Memorabilia, Autographs etc.*
★ *Open 7 days till late*
40 The Lanes, The Oasis, Meadowhall Centre, Sheffield S9 – (2 mins J34 M1)
Send SAE for catalogue:
Tel: 0742 553399/569604

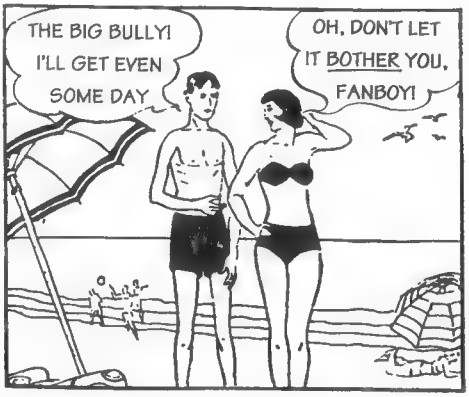
ODYSSEY 7
AMERICAN COMICS, LATEST IMPORTS TO BACK ISSUES, GRAPHIC NOVELS, FILM/TV BOOKS, MAGAZINES, STILLS, VIDEOS, T-SHIRTS, TRADING CARDS, ACTION FIGURES, POSTERS, POSTCARDS
30 Eastgate, Leeds LS2 7JL
Tel: 0532 426325

ODYSSEY 7
AMERICAN COMICS, LATEST IMPORTS TO BACK ISSUES, GRAPHIC NOVELS, FILM/TV BOOKS, MAGAZINES, STILLS, VIDEOS, T-SHIRTS, TRADING CARDS, ACTION FIGURES, POSTERS, POSTCARDS
Tel: 0532 426325
6 Harrison Street, Off Vicar Lane, Leeds LS1 6PA
Behind Sony Centre.

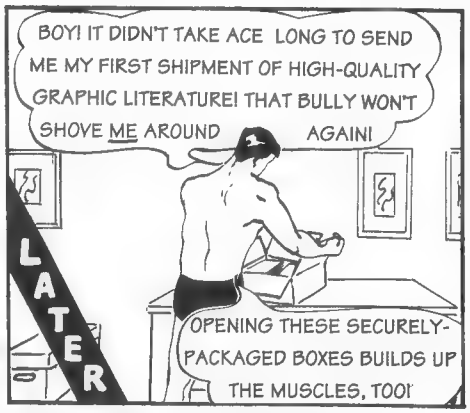
TO ADVERTISE IN OUR DIRECT MARKET COSTS AS LITTLE AS £10.00 PER MONTH. FOR MORE INFO CALL EMMA
01206 861574

THE INSULT THAT MADE AN ACE CUSTOMER OUT OF "MAC"





GOSH DARN IT ALL TO HECK AND BACK! I'M SICK OF GAPS IN MY COLLECTION! 'BIFF' BEESON SAYS HE CAN GIVE ME A REAL SERVICE. ALL RIGHT! I'LL GAMBLE A STAMP AND GET HIS FREE ORDER-PACK!


BOY! IT DIDN'T TAKE ACE LONG TO SEND ME MY FIRST SHIPMENT OF HIGH-QUALITY GRAPHIC LITERATURE! THAT BULLY WON'T SHOVE ME AROUND AGAIN!
LATER
OPENING THESE SECURELY-PACKAGED BOXES BUILDS UP THE MUSCLES, TOO!

LOOK! MINT COPIES OF THE LATEST ISSUES, DEEPLY DISCOUNTED AND DELIVERED TO MY DOOR!
CHOKE!
WITH AN EXCLUSIVE NEWS AND INFO MAGAZINE, TOO!

HERE'S HOW ACE ADVANCE ORDER CAN HELP YOU!

Everybody knows that a well-developed comic collection makes a man instantly more popular with the beach crowd, more attractive to women and able to hold his own against any gigantic bully. But did you know that **'Biff' Beeson**, supplier of "The World's Most Perfectly-Developed Comic Advance-Order Service", once had a frail, skinny collection, chosen in ignorance and full of gaps? Once, he too was a 97-comic "runt"!

Now, using modern scientific methods, Biff Beeson is prepared to share with others his incredible collecting secrets. The **ACE Advance Order Service Method** has already helped hundreds of other fellows become real he-men collectors in double quick time. In just 15 minutes a month, and using no weights, springs or pulleys, it can do the same for YOU! Everyone can now have the kind of "Greek-God" collection that women rave about at the beach - the kind that makes other fellows green with envy.

Let the **ACE** method help you, not next month or next year - but **Right NOW!**

JEEPERS, YES, 'BIFF' BEESON! I WANT A HE-MAN ADVANCE-ORDER SERVICE WHICH OFFERS ME:

- **DYNAMIC** choice: Hundreds of imported titles each month. No long-term subscription, I choose what I want every time!
- **SLIMMER** bills: Your prices are pre-discounted, so I instantly know what I am paying!
- **MORE MUSCULAR** magazine: ACE's exclusive *Illuminations*, containing full advance product information, news, recommendations, letters, competitions, sales analysis and indecipherable babbling!
- **LITHE, RIPPLING** giveaways, including merchandise, limited-edition comics and a monthly draw for ACE credit tokens!
- **WELL-PROPORTIONED** fully computerised service, including confirmation of my order, itemised packing-notes and regular detailed statements.
- **SLEEK** In-Stock form, listing popular restocks, unlikely merchandise, special offers and sale items!
- **RUGGED** dispatching, with every shipment securely and professionally packaged to reach me in tip-top shape!
- **POWERFUL** experience from thirteen years of speciality service to comic fans across the UK!
- **GREEK GOD-LIKE** staff, ready to supply a famously friendly, efficient service!

FOR A RUGGED, HE-MAN ADVANCE-ORDER SERVICE, WRITE, ENCLOSING A STAMPED, SELF-ADRESSED A4 ENVELOPE, TO:

ACE ADVANCE ORDER
1 HEADGATE BLDGS., ST.JOHNS ST., COLCHESTER, ESSEX CO2 7AD

Tel: (0206) 561912

COMIC DEALERS: ARE THE INLAND REVENUE MAKING YOU FEEL LESS THAN COMIC?

IF SO, WHY NOT APPOINT A TOP TWENTY FIRM OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS TO DEAL WITH YOUR TAXATION AND ACCOUNTING NEEDS?

FOR A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF YOUR REQUIREMENTS, PLEASE RING

SURESH TOLAT BA FCA OF *CASSON BECKMAN* ON 071-387 2888 EXT 362.

SURESH UNDERSTANDS YOUR BUSINESS, HE HAS BEEN COLLECTING COMICS FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS AND ATTENDS COMIC FAIRS FREQUENTLY.

WHO SAID ACCOUNTANTS ARE BORING?!

ALTERNATIVELY, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO WRITE OR FAX US, DETAILS BELOW, AND SURESH WILL CONTACT YOU.

CASSON BECKMAN
chartered accountants

Hobson House
155 Gower Street
London WC1E 6BJ
Tel: 071 387 2888
Fax: 071 388 0600

REBELLION

REBELLION, the creative force behind Alien vs Predator and other award-winning interactive products is looking for creative people in both art and scripting to join our team.

We are working closely with US studios on a number of film-related projects and need storyboard artists and others to augment our in-house and freelance staff.

If interested, send samples of work to

Jason Kingsley
65 George Street
Oxford
or phone: 0865 792201

MIGHTY WORLD OF COMICS

4 Manor Road
London N16 5SA

MAIL ORDER HOTLINE
(0181) 211 8411

CALL NOW FOR YOUR FREE CATALOGUE

thousands of back issues in stock
Marvel DC Independents

Mention Comic World when placing your first order, and receive a FREE Readers Pack containing 5 comics

selling your collection?
We've bought 1,000s of comics over the past few months and we're still buying!!
Either send in a list or telephone our buying department.
NO COLLECTION IS TOO LARGE OR SMALL

THE COMICS WAREHOUSE

PO BOX 333 (38), GALLIFORD ROAD, MALDON, ESSEX CM9 7XD

THE CLEARANCE CENTRE FOR PUBLISHER'S OVERSTOCKS AND REMAINDERS

Mail Order CoBRA Protection

Hello and good morning. We've been so ultra busy lately that we haven't had time to produce our usual four page advertisement for Comic World. Instead we've put together a page of specials and sets for your edification and delight. The Warehouse has a stock of well over half a million books and this is but a small sampling from our pleasure box. Everyone sending in an order from this page quoting the fact they they saw it in Comic World 38, will receive details of other comics available and will have something extra added to their parcel. Don't ask what, just be pleasantly surprised.

Please remember that all our advertisements are completely self-contained and cannot be mixed or matched with any other advertisement or offer.The prices in this ad are valid from the publication of Comic World until April 28th 1995 only. All prices are per copy except "set" or "pack" prices which are for single sets as advertised.

Representing "Your Right to Read". We believe you have the right to be able to afford and enjoy comics

The minimum order is just £5.00 with a flat fee of £3.00 for delivery main- and UK: ,whatever the size of the order.

Please note: to improve despatch we print our computer codes used for each title (eg DC71 = Batman: M300 = Uncanny X-Men). It would be extremely helpful to us if you would give the relevant computer code with your order, whether verbally with telephone orders or when listing written orders.

DC21H: ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN No 500 Special pack one newstand and one Collector's edition for just.....£0.95

DC50A: AQUAMAN: Time & Tide: Full set of all four issues: pack price.....£1.75

DC71H: THE MANY DEATHS OF THE BATMAN by Byrne, Aparo, De Carlo, in issues 433, 434, 435. All 3 issues pack price just £0.50

DC71J: BATMAN YEAR THREE, Wolfman,Broderick & Beatty. 4 part story in 436,437,438,439 all 4 parts pack price.....£0.75

DC75: GOTHAM NIGHTS First 4 issue mini series issues 1-4 available only as a set.....£0.95

DC91A: BATMAN vs PREDATOR I Three issue mini series available as a pack: all three issues set price £2.50

DC96B: SHADOW OF THE BAT Issues 1-4 as a pack, set price for all four £2.50

DC98A: BATMAN: The Sword of Azrael Four issue mini series: art by Joe Quesada. All four issues only available as a pack: set price £9.95

DC181A: CHAIN GANG WAR written by the UKs own John WAGNER. We offer all 12 issues, all 290 pages of story telling art for a 12 issue set price of just.....£3.95

DC199A: DEMOLITION MAN (Movie) Full set of four issues just.....£1.25

DC211K: BLIND JUSTICE: An excellent three part story by Sam Hamm, Denys Cowan & Dick Giordano in Detective 598 (80 pages Giant) 599 (normal sized issue) climaxing in 600 (80 page giant). All 3 issues at a set price of just.....£0.95

DC410: JUDGEMENT DAY 6 episode crossover story in JLA 89,90 Taskforce 13,14 JLI 65,66. All six issues pack price just.....£1.25

DC419A: KAMANDI AT EARTHS END Full set of 6 issues, special pack price.....£1.75

DC478A: LOBO: UnAmerican Gladiators: Full set of four issues - pack price.....£1.40

DC488A: METAL MEN: All four issues pack price.....£1.25

DC502A: METAMORPHO: All four issues pack price.....£0.75

DC595: THE RAY (Quesada 6 issue mini series) all six issues at a pack price of £2.50

DC602A: ROBIN II: Dark Joker full 4 issue series pack price £0.90

DC715D: SUPERBOY: Special reader pack of the first nine issues 1-9 pack price of just.....£2.95

DC759A: TIMBERWOLF 5 Issue Set £1.25

DC768A: VALOR: Special Reader pack. Full set of issues 1-18 inclusive pack price .£4.95

LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT READER SETS

DC441A: 24-26 Flyer by Howard Chaykin & Gil Kane plus 28-30 Faces by Matt Wagner 6 comics pack price £2.95

DC441B: 31 Family by Hudnall & Anderson plus 32-34 Blades by James Robinson & Tim Sale plus 35,36 Destiny by Mark Kneese & Bo Hampton. 6 comics pack price.£2.95

DC441C: 37 Mercy by Abnett, Lanning, MacNeil plus 38 DarkMite by Alan Grant & Kev O'Neill plus 39,40 Mask by Bryan Talbot plus 41 Sunset by Joyner, Wilson, Fern, plus 42,43 Hothouse by John Francis Moore & P. Craig Russell, 7 comics pack price.....£3.35

DC441D: 44,45 Turf by Steven Grant & Shawn McManus plus 46-49 Heat by Doug Moench & Russ Heath co-starring Cat-woman 6 comics pack price.....£2.95

DC441E: 51 Snitch by Robert Loren Fleming & David G. Klein plus 52,53 Tao by Alan Grant & Arthur Ranson plus 54 Sanctum by Dan Raspler & Mike Mignola plus 55-57 Watch Tower by Chuck Dixon & Mike McMahon plus 58 Storm by Andrew Donkin, Graham Brand & John Higgins 8 comics pack price..... £3.95

DC441X: Special Pack "Destroyer" by O'Neil, Sprouse & Patterson, three part story in Batman 474,. Legends of the Dark Knight 27, concludes in Detective 641. Plus Legends of the Dark Night **Annual** 1. 4 comics Special Pack Price ..£0.95

SPECIALS

X6: TRINITY SPECIAL PACK: Back in stock for a limited run. Both issues of the special issues TRINITY 1 & TRINITY 2 plus Green Lantern 44,45, L.E.G.I.O.N. 57,58 and DARKSTARS 11,12. Eight comics in all covering the complete TRINITY Crossover: Special pack price.....£2.25

X9: AMAZING SPIDERMAN: Soul of the Hunter Graphic Novel, Killraven is back from the grave ..£1.95

X10: SPECIAL BATMAN PACK: 52 Comics: A solid reading experience one each of 434,435,441,442,470-487,489-491,494-496,498-506; Annual 16, Shadow of the Bat 17,18,21-23, Detective 658,663-670. All 52 comics £12.95

X11: The DEMON: Created by Jack Kirby: Jason Blood shares himself with Etrigan, the Rhyming Demon from Hell. This series is a mix of action, adventure, blood n'guts, parody and sarcasm. We've put together a special pack of 15 issues at a special pack price to give you a taste for Demons, gore and Harry the human pillow.Nos 18-26 and 40-45, all 15 issues just.....£2.95

X12: ECLIPSO Full reader set. Both issues of The Darkness Within, Eclipso Annual and issues 1-18 of the series 21 comics at one set price of £3.95

X13: GREEN LANTERN/ GREEN ARROW. VARIETY READER PACK. 57 COMICS FOR JUST.....£9.95 Green Lantern 16 thru 45, G.L. Qtly 1,2 & 7, Green Arrow 64-83, Emerald Dawn II, 2,3,4 and GL Annual 1.

THE SUPERMAN FAMILY OF TITLES, Superman, Adventures of Superman, Action Comics starring Superman and Superman the Man of Steel are all monthly titles with each one published on a separate week of each month. Effectively then Superman is a weekly book: each issue carries a numbered triangle: these triangle numbers enable you to follow the continuing story line week by week

Starting with Superman's Return after the Reign of the Supermen line, we can now offer the follow story Arcs as sets

X14: 1993: TRIANGLE Nos 31 (in which Superman returns to Lois in Adventures of Superman 505) 32,33, 34 (funeral for a friend epilogue) 35 (Superman and Superboy duke it out) 36, Return of the Eradicator, 37, 38, and the 3 partner "Spilled Blood" in 39,40 and Triangle 1 of 1994. 11 comics at a set price of £2.95

X15: 1994: TRIANGLES: 2 (Cat Grants Revenge) 3 (Challengers) 4,5 (Lobo), 6 (Lost in Space), 7,8,9 (Back to Earth) Bizarro's World in 10,11,12,13,14, Then Superman's Power is out of Control in 15,16,17,18,19, 18 Comics at a set pricef £4.75

X30: SUPERMAN 1994 TRIANGLES 20 (Action 699) Starts the battle for Metropolis (There is one anomaly in this pack Man of Steel 35 should be Triangle 25, but it was misprinted as Triangle 28, it contains Worlds Collide 1) Thru Triangles 26-28 The Fall of Metropolis to 29 (Worlds Collide 10) 30,31 Massacre in Metropolis and 32 "Bloodsport" a deranged racist, white supremacist killer. A Thirteen Comic Pack (Including G/S Action 700) at a set price of £3.95

X31: SUPERMAN 1994 Triangles (33-40) pack: 8 comics Zero Hour previews to Zero Hour: the pack consists of Man of Steel 37 and Zero, Superman 93 (Back to Krypton) and Zero, The Adventures of Alpha Centurion & Zero, Action 703 and Zero: Eight comic pack.....£2.95

X50: SPECIAL ELSEWORLDS ANNUALS PACK: Elseworlds was the 1994 annuals event from D.C. Elseworlds tales take existing Superheroes and characters into alternate possible realities. Many of the stories are excellently crafted other universetales: The pack consists of: Action Annual 6 by John Byrne set in revolutionary America. The Adventures of Superman Annual 6 with many heroes in a futuristic tale in two parts that concludes in Superboy Annual 1 (also included) Batman Annual 18, Leonardo da Vinci, Catwoman Annual 1 with a medieval Batman. Detective Annual 7: Batman and the Joker on the Spanish Main. Green Lantern Annual 3: The Nazi Dream, Racism and the Green Guys. Robin Annual 3: Samurai Warriors, Superman Annual 6: In the Jungle and finally: Man of Steel Annual 3: Ten annuals at US $29.50 / UK £20.00 value from the Warehouse: pack price just.....£4.95

X17: THE AMAZING SPIDERMAN - THE ORIGIN OF THE HOBGOBLIN. 160 all colour pages, A Marvel Book, soft cover: US $14.95 Warehouse price £3.95

X18: BATMAN in ARKHAM ASYLUM Hardcover, Morrison/McKean US $24.95 Warehouse.....£9.95

X19: BATMAN "GOTHIC" Graphic novel Grant Morrison/Klaus Jansen US $12.99 Warehouse £5.95

ORDERING INFORMATION & TERMS

* BY MAIL: List your complete order together with your name, address (and daytime phone number if possible), and enclose a cheque, postal orders, money order, cash or your credit card details. Please make payments to The Comics Warehouse (only send cash by registered mail).
* BY FAX: List your complete order, name, address credit card details and phone number.
* BY PHONE: Please have your full order to hand together with your credit card details when ordering by telephone. We regret that we are unable to take telephone reservations, only orders together with credit card payments.
* SPEEDY DELIVERY: Orders will be dealt with in rotation as received, with those paid by credit card or postal orders usually despatched within 48/72 hours. Cheques: orders will be mailed within 24/48 hours of your cheque clearing. Our guarantee: all orders of whatever size will be turned around within seven working days then the couriers we use make sure your parcel gets to you safely..
* FULL REFUNDS - NO CREDIT NOTES: In the unlikely event that we are out of stock of any of your offered items, a refund cheque will be despatched. Credit card customers will be debited the exact amount of goods plus shipping.
* SHIPPING: For the flat fee of £3.00 on per order Mainland UK books are shipped by courier to commercial addresses (e.g. your place of work) or by Parcel Force or similar to private homes. All parcels are consigned and will need to be signed for on receipt.
* FLAT RATE SHIPPING FEES OUTSIDE MAINLAND UK: Northern Ireland £3.50, Eire & Channel Isle £8.00, Belgium & France £9.00,Netherlands & Denmark £10.00, Germany & Luxembourg £12,00, Spain, Portugal & Italy £14.00. Other countries are shipped by International Courier on a per kilo basis. Send in your order and after picking it, we shall advise you of the shipping cost.
* MULTIPLE COPY ORDERS supplied at our discretion only.
* UNCONDITIONAL GUARANTEE: Because we are confident that you will be delighted with our service, the quality of our books, and our pricing policies, we are happy to offer a full refund on any unsatisfactory order returned within seven days of shipping.
* CAUTION: Titles marked for mature readers often contain themes of a sexual nature and are most definitely not for minors. We must ask you to confirm you are over sixteen years of age in writing when ordering such items.

Credit Card Hotline: 01621 850351 Fax Order Line: 01621 850862 24-hour Answerphone 01621 859243

We stock a wide range of Anime & Manga goods

BOOKS - MAGAZINES

MODEL KITS - CELS

VIDEOS - T-SHIRTS - PINS

PATCHES - POSTERS

and more!!

Open: Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 10am-5pm
Sat 9am-5pm. Closed Wed & Sun

SEND SAE FOR LISTS

SF BOOKS
COMICS
FILM/TV

33 THE WICKER
SHEFFIELD S3 8HS
TEL:
(0742) 758905

American GRAFFITI

THE COMICS SPECIALIST

DON'T READ THIS AD!
(UNLESS YOU WANT SOME GREAT COMICS AT GREAT PRICES!)

RECENT BACK ISSUES

Wolverine 1 ..... £6.95
Aliens vs Predator (1st series) 0 (FN) £2.95
Aliens vs Predator 1 (FN) £2.95
Punisher War Journal 1 ..... £7.95
Batman Sword of Azrael (mini series) 1 ..... £7.95
Simpsons Comics & Stories 1 ..... £2.95
Sandman 8 1st Death) (FN) £3.95
Dr Who Weekly 1 (with transfers) £3.95

SILVER AGE/60's MARVELS

Incredible Hulk 102 (FN+/VFN−) (cents copy) £59.00
Ironman & Submariner 1 (VG) £9.95
Fantastic Four 17 (G) £17.95
Fantastic Four 23 (VG) £15.95
Fantastic Four 52 (VG+) £8.50
Amazing Spiderman 7 (VG+) £60.00
Amazing Spiderman 50 (VG) £25.00
Amazing Spiderman 96 (FN+/VFN−) £10.95
Daredevil 4 (Poor/Fair) £6.95
Marvel Team up 1 (VFN cents) £25.00

Just a small selection of 60's Marvels now available including many runs at unbeatable prices. Send Wants List or phone for details.

ORDERING INFORMATION: The above comics all include P&P. Please make cheques/ PO's payable to **American Graffiti.** Reservations can be made for 7 days by phone. Note: Key issues not kept on premises so phone if you want to view.

78 CHURCH LANE BARNSTAPLE DEVON EX31 1BH
TEL: 01271 25740

CHAOS CITY

Unit 36, The Inshops The Maltings St Albans Hertfordshire

"CHAOS CITY MEGA SALE"
18th MARCH 1995
ONE DAY ONLY

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

50% OFF Back Issues from £1.00-£10.00
35% OFF from £10 upwards
Everything else 25% OFF

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

End of Winter Mega Sale

TANKED UP!

Forget *Judge Dredd*. Forget Batman Returns. The comic book movie event of the year has got to be the long-awaited movie debut of TANK GIRL. She's already part of British youth culture and soon will be immortalised on the screens of your local multiplex fleapit. Stephen Jewell finds out why...

Jamie Hewlett is certainly a hard bastard to track down but he is, without doubt, the man of the moment. Since last appearing in *Comic World* (way back in #6) his Hollywood dreams have come true and, as a realist, Hewlett has rarely been out of the spotlight. Features on *Tank Girl* appeared in the likes of *Vox*, *Sky* and *The Evening Standard* months before the film was due out and Hewlett even guested on Radio One's Evening Session Brighton Rock week; with the film already out in America and due in Britain shortly, there is bound to be no let-up. Next month's *Face* will be one of the first as it features Lori Petty on the cover and an 8-page fashion shoot with her as TG.

I finally get hold of Hewlett through our man Milligan. The obvious questions go out of the window as I cut to the chase. If you don't know by now how *Tank Girl* beat a path from Deadline to the silver screen...where have you been? With the movie nearing completion and Hewlett having seen the latest rough cut in America around the turn of the year, what exactly does he think of it?

"Hard to say really, because what I saw was a very rough cut minus special effects, minus soundtrack, minus animation - there's some animation in it - so it was very rough, but it looked good. The version I saw will probably be completely different to what appears on the screen: it was fun but it needs some fine tuning, which is what we've been doing." He and Philip Bond have just finished a number of spot illustrations to be used in the film itself.

The question on most people's lips must be *How does Lori Petty measure up as Tank Girl?* "She's great. She does it really well. She's really into the part. In her natural life she's a drinker and a smoker and all the rest of it, so she understands

the ingredients that make the character work." Hewlett is also pleased with the rest of the cast, including Ice T and Malcolm McDowell - one of Hewlett's heroes after classic performances in films like *If* and *Clockwork Orange*: "We asked for Malolm McDowell because he's great. They came up with the idea of getting Ice T and we said 'Fine' because I like Ice T."

Tank Girl will also feature the hottest soundtrack this side of *Pulp Fiction*. Putting it all together will be Courtney Love, who had expressed an interest in appearing in TG last year before tragedy intervened. "She's like the

supervisor," says Hewlett. "She's basically doing a track herself and getting all the other bands involved. We needed someone with her knowledge to put together a decent soundtrack otherwise it would have been left to some studio executive. She understands how it all works... she's doing a very good job." Apart from Love, bands confirmed so far include the Beastie Boys, Beck, Ice T, Bjork, Green Day, L7, Veruca Salt, Blur, Elastica, the Breeders and Portishead.

Hewlett has spoken at length in the past about how he would like to see a whole range of Tank Girl toys spin off from the film. This will depend on whether *Tank Girl* receives a general or adult certificate. "Last time I heard, they were still playing around with the certificate. It was brought down from 18 to a PG and now it's back to 18. It depends which scenes they cut out. If there is merchandising, great, because the tank would just make the coolest toy in the world." Hewlett wants any toys to appeal to girls as well as boys: "They'll be unisex toys. We want to try and direct them at girls but, unfortunately, there aren't any major toy companies that will touch girls' toys. They can't see a market for them so we say give them a go. They will market them as boys' toys but hopefully girls will buy them. The thing is, boys won't buy action figures that are girls, but hopefully they will buy the tank and they'll buy the Rippers and the kangaroos, and the girls will buy the Tank Girl doll so there'll be some weird crossovers.

"We want to subvert youth so they grow up a bit twisted. Girls grow up with a different veiw: girls have crap toys and boys have great toys. It's always been that way. When boys grow up and become teenagers and adults, they're alway remembering the toys they used to buy and play with and they go and pay extortionate prices to buy the same toys they had when they were ten from second-hand shops. But girls never really remember their toys and they move forword. I remember all the toys I had when I was a kid, and if I had them now, I'd be playing with them. Boys have all the fun toys, so we'd like to change that."

Hewlett has his fingers crossed when it comes to more *Tank Girl* films and is also talking to M-G-M about a movie project with Peter Milligan. "There's talk about a sequel already. All the actors are signed up and so is everybody who worked on everything else, but it all depends on how it does on its opening weekend. All it has to do is recoup what they've spent on it and a little more, and that will justify the sequel."

COOL

Tank Girl is one of the few comic characters that people who don't normally read comics are into. Even if they haven't actually read the comic, they've bought a t-shirt. "I think what makes Tank Girl so popular is that she's cool. She's the coolest, he's cooler than any other comic character on the planet, which is no mean feat. There's no cool comic characters, basically. There's *weird* comic characters, there's *frustrated* comic characters, there's *odd* comic characters and then there's superheroes... TG out cools them all. She was born cool."

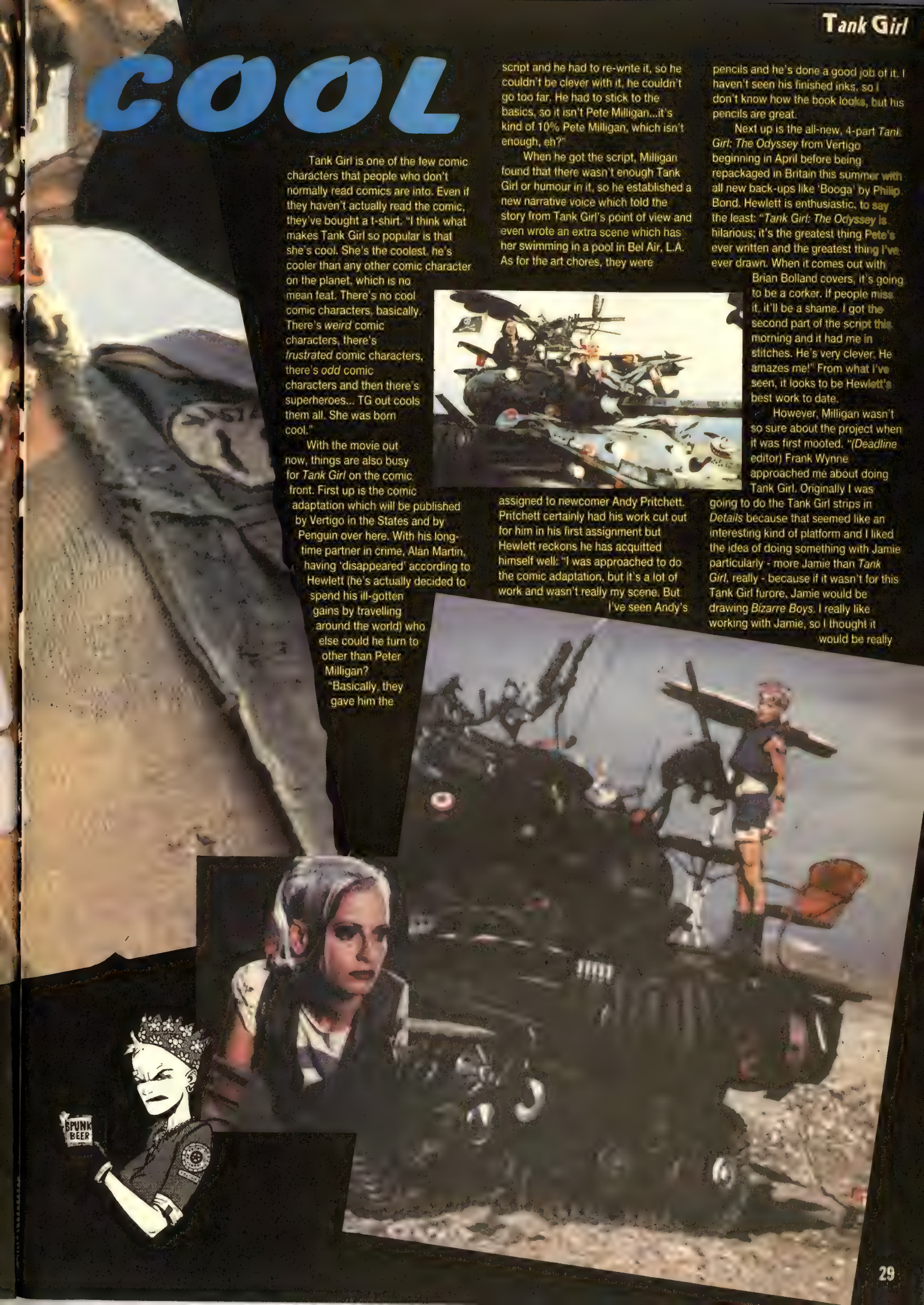
With the movie out now, things are also busy for *Tank Girl* on the comic front. First up is the comic adaptation which will be published by Vertigo in the States and by Penguin over here. With his long-time partner in crime, Alan Martin, having 'disappeared' according to Hewlett (he's actually decided to spend his ill-gotten gains by travelling around the world) who else could he turn to other than Peter Milligan?

"Basically, they gave him the script and he had to re-write it, so he couldn't be clever with it, he couldn't go too far. He had to stick to the basics, so it isn't Pete Milligan...it's kind of 10% Pete Milligan, which isn't enough, eh?"

When he got the script, Milligan found that there wasn't enough Tank Girl or humour in it, so he established a new narrative voice which told the story from Tank Girl's point of view and even wrote an extra scene which has her swimming in a pool in Bel Air, L.A. As for the art chores, they were assigned to newcomer Andy Pritchett. Pritchett certainly had his work cut out for him in his first assignment but Hewlett reckons he has acquitted himself well: "I was approached to do the comic adaptation, but it's a lot of work and wasn't really my scene. But I've seen Andy's pencils and he's done a good job of it. I haven't seen his finished inks, so I don't know how the book looks, but his pencils are great.

Next up is the all-new, 4-part *Tank Girl: The Odyssey* from Vertigo beginning in April before being repackaged in Britain this summer with all new back-ups like 'Booga' by Philip Bond. Hewlett is enthusiastic, to say the least: "*Tank Girl: The Odyssey* is hilarious; it's the greatest thing Pete's ever written and the greatest thing I've ever drawn. When it comes out with Brian Bolland covers, it's going to be a corker. If people miss it, it'll be a shame. I got the second part of the script this morning and it had me in stitches. He's very clever. He amazes me!" From what I've seen, it looks to be Hewlett's best work to date.

However, Milligan wasn't so sure about the project when it was first mooted. "(*Deadline* editor) Frank Wynne approached me about doing Tank Girl. Originally I was going to do the Tank Girl strips in *Details* because that seemed like an interesting kind of platform and I liked the idea of doing something with Jamie particularly - more Jamie than *Tank Girl*, really - because if it wasn't for this Tank Girl furore, Jamie would be drawing *Bizarre Boys*. I really like working with Jamie, so I thought it would be really



nice to do *Details;* then Frank began talking about the series done in cahoots with Vertigo. I said 'I'm too busy. I don't really want to do that.' Then we were talking about it over dinner and I was just saying 'If I were to do it, wouldn't it be fun to do a Tank Girl story drawing its references on Homer's *The Odyssey* and James Joyce's *Ulysses.'* So, we had this fun 'What If...?' conversation, and eventually it got so much fun that I thought 'Bugger it, it's so much fun I should do it.' That's how it begun.

"I really like basing a character as scatalogical and crazed a Tank Girl on these two huge pinnacles of literature. One of them is the greatest piece of ancient literature and the second arguably the greatest piece of modernist literature. It's been fun folding in in-jokes which if you know *The Odyssey* and *Ulysses* you will get. The trick has been to write so that if you know neither piece of work, you can still have fun. I think we've achieved that. I don't think Jamie's Homeric knowledge is as vast and as expansive as some...and I don't think he's read *Ulysses* either...but he's enjoying it.

"*Tank Girl: The Odyssey* is written from the point of view that the movie has been made and Tank Girl is a film star. In Australia, Booga is being courted by a suitor. Essentially, this character is called Tony the Blazer, who is a Hollywood producer who wants Booga to sign a contract cutting Tank Girl out. Meanwhile, Tank Girl is in Dublin really drunk after a series of parties with this guy called Troy. She's really drunk and it's about Tank Girl really drunk and her efforts to get sober, get thin and get a crew together and get back to Australia before Tony the Blazer manages to persuade Booga to sign this contract. Part of the fun will be finding all the little references. For Booga, read Penelope in *The Odyssey*, or Molly Bloom in *Ulysses* - so I'm really looking forward to writing Booga's soliloquy at the end. Tony the Blazer is both Blazes Boyland in *Ulysses*, who is going to screw Leopold Bloom's wife, and also Antonius, the suiter of Penelope."

However, Milligan needed a character to correspond with Telemachus, who is the son of Odysseus in *The Odyssey* and Stephen Daedalus in *Ulysses*. "We solved this by making a new character in the Tank Girl pantheon which is thi television called 'Telly' (obviously) and it's always being told to make this and make that so sometimes he thinks his name is Telemakeus...

"In a sense, the story's going to be the crazy journeys of Tank Girl round the world as she tries to get back to Australia. All of which will be to a greater or lesser degree, a parallel of either a Homeric or Joycean episode from one of their books. I won't go into too much detail about which parallels I'm using because half of the fun is eeing it. A lot of stuff sshould be a groan. You should be thinking 'Oh, God.' Some of it's kind of pathetic. It's hurtful, like terrible. One example: Tank Girl is on an aeroplane. It's obviously Olympic Airlines - Greek Airlines. She's going back to Australia and they manage to flanagle their way into first class and they've got he tank on as hand luggage. The stewardess (named Cilla, as in Scylla) comes up and offers Tank Girl two chocolates at the end of her meal; Tank Girl is really drunk and one chocolate is hard and the other is a whirlpool surprise, not actually proper chocolate, but a carib dish, so there's lots of terrible puns on either Homer or Joyce running through the whole thing. They go to the Land of the Dead, they get a crew, they die, they get alive again. Tank Girl has to go and watch *Heimat* for 15, 16 hours. There's a bit of a cliffhanger actually. She only has three hours left to save her crew before she's taken back to the Land of the Dead; she goes to watch a movie to rest her feet but then realises it's *Heimat,* so she's on the horns of a dilemma: either be branded a cultural philistine for all time, or to let her comrades die. It's high octane fun. Lots of jokes, lots of violence, quite a lot of sex...It's fun!"

Milligan believes that the literary restrictions he has set has benefited both his script and Hewlett's art: "One problem with *Tank Girl* is that it's a world in which anything can happen and sometimes when you're writing or drawing a world like that, it's got no rules and no parameters which I think are probably necessary to make a good story. Having this pre-set template of Homer and Joyce mean that you have certain areas in which you have to travel and you push against that and that's where you get your fun. That's why I think Jamie is responding so well, because he also has some confines, some chains that he has to pull against. I'm writing things and he's trying to subvert them, and it's obviously easier to subvert some really tight rules than nothing at all. Part of the fun is seeing the struggle between the script and the artwork."

Hewlett is confident that he and Milligan are on the same wavelength when it comes to Tank Girl: "He understands the formula. We had a good chat about this; I explained the formula and he gets it completely. It's a great formula: it's basically do whatever the fuck you want and make the character look cool and sexy, and it's so easy to do. Tank Girl is not hung up about anything, she's not full of shit like most characters; she's just fun and fun will be had wherever she goes." Milligan agrees: "She's almost like a blank page you an fraw on. It's amost like an archetypal every-Tank Girl. It will probably become like Hamlet in that certain writers will do their Tank Girl and I like to think of this one as the Lawrence Olivier of Tank Girls."

If *Tank Girl: The Odyssey* goes down a storm, which it surely will, DC plan to do more. "The second series is hopefully going to be written by Alan Grant and drawn by Philip Bond," says Jamie. "The third series will be written by Pete Milligan again and drawn by me. But that depends on how well the comic sells. If it doesn't sell very well, DC won't do the second series." Jamie is understandably precious about who he shares the artistic reins with on TG as he has brought in his neighbour and flatmate, Philip Bond and Glynn Dillon respectively, to help him out. "They're my two favourite artists. They're the only people I can trust to draw Tank Girl. I wouldn't trust anyone else." Milligan believes that Hewlett is right to be wary: "He's got a property there. He's got a character and if you let too many people shag it then it would debase that character and lower that character's currency."

One person that Hewlett would like to get to write Tank Girl at some stage is Grant Morrison. "I'm a big fan of Grant. Hopefully he'll be writing some stuff. We approached him, but he's quite busy at the moment. I get on well with Grant...he's a fine man. He ha the kind of head it takes to do weird stuff. He's a suave man."

Hewlett has high hopes for Tank Girl and particularly *The Odyssey*: "Tank Girl is good for Vertigo because it's fun and that's what it's about. It's in your face and stupid and giggly and none of this 'guys sitting in bathtubs and slashing their wrists' stuff. Comics are about punching people in the face, exploding, and drinking beer. Not this 'I'm a hero but in my spare time I have cancer and my wife has had three abortions on the trot'." Pete Milligan seems to be just as in love with the Girl: "I hate her. Horrible, smelly, stinky...but beyond all rationality one desperately wants to go to bed with her. But this is as close I'll ever get to going to bed with her. Or Jamie for that matter." CW

STEPHEN JEWELL **is one of our most regular writers in recent months, his most recent contributions including interviews with Charlie Adlard and Garth Ennis.**

SO IT IS!, FANCY STUMBLING ON THE SECOND BIRTH OF CHRIST, AND FORGETTING TO BRING A BOTTLE. Y'KNOW SOME PEOPLE FORGET THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS
S'RIGHT
MAKE SURE YOU DON'T FORGET,,, ALWAYS TAKE A BOTTLE TO PARTIES!
THE END

COMING SOON PHONECARDS FOR THE FUTURE

Supercar ①

Supercar ②

Supercar ③

Supercar ④

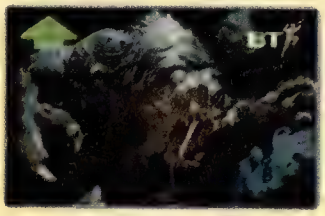
Fireball XL5 ①

Fireball XL5 ②

Fireball XL5 ③

Fireball XL5 ④

Star Wars ①


Star Wars ②

Return of The Jedi ①

Return of The Jedi ②

Empire Strikes Back ①

Empire Strikes Back ②

Alien ①

Alien ②

Actual cards for Star Wars Trilogy & Aliens may vary subject to BT's final confirmation on card designs

The majority of cards produced by P & J Promotions will now be with "full-card" printing i.e. the picture will cover the whole card. This will obviously enhance the cards, so the series of Star Wars, Return of the Jedi, Empire Strikes Back, Alien, Aliens and Aliens 3 will look even better!

Within the next few months there will be a large campaign in the media relating to the new Judge Dredd film. With this in mind a specially commissioned story by John Wagner (Creator) and Kev Walker (artist) will be featured on phonecards. The story, told on a series of 18 cards released over the next 2 years, will not be released in any other form – in any comic or magazine. Since first advertising these cards enquiries have resulted in almost $^{3}/_{4}$ of them being reserved. As part of a limited edition, a definite collectors' item for the future.

Dan Dare is a must for comic art and sci-fi fans, as are Gerry Anderson's UFO and Space 1999.

For those collectors among you who grew-up with Action Man and who now have children playing with him, the Action Man Collectors Club and P & J Promotions are releasing an Action Man card in the next 6 weeks. The majority of these cards have already been bought by AMCC members – so don't miss out!

NEW CARDS FOR THE FUTURE

The Prisoner, Space Precinct, Roy of the Rovers

To guarantee these Phonecard collections and not to miss out, fill out the form below indicating the specific phonecards you wish to order.

CARDS AVAILABLE (All inc VAT)	Please tick which you require	HOW MANY SETS
CAPTAIN SCARLETT 4 card set (including folder) £48	☐	☐
JOE 90 4 card set (folder) £48	☐	☐
STINGRAY 4 card set (folder) £48	☐	☐
FIREBALL XL5 1 card set (folder) £10	☐	☐
SUPERCAR 1 card set (folder) £10	☐	☐
STAR WARS TRILOGY 1 card (folder) £10	☐	☐
ALIENS TRILOGY 1 card (folder) £10	☐	☐
DAN DARE 1 card set (folder) £10	☐	☐
JUDGE DREDD 1 card set (folder) £10	☐	☐
SPACE 1999 1 card set (folder) £10	☐	☐
UFO 1 card set (folder) £10	☐	☐
ACTION MAN 1 card set (folder) £10	☐	☐

Postage is £1 per set recorded delivery. International postage on request.

Cheques payable to P & J Promotions

CREDIT CARD HOTLINE (01273) 463017

ACCESS ☐ VISA ☐ CARD No ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

EXPIRY DATE ☐☐☐☐

HOLDERS SIGNATURE .....

MR/MRS/MISS (Block Capitals) .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

Post Code .....Telephone No .....

Send to P & J PROMOTIONS DEPT. 10, P.O. BOX 23, SHOREHAM-BY-SEA, WEST SUSSEX, BN43 5EG.

All Enquiries must enclose S.A.E. for a reply

CUT HERE OR PHOTOCOPY

With Doom poised to take over America in 2099, Warren Ellis offers a glimpse of the future.

...Tomor the

An evil European despot threatens the world. His armies sweep across America laying waste and seizing all political and financial control. The government is powerless to stop him and soon a ruthless dictatorship is installed. No it's not the worst case scenario of World War II, but rather what Warren Ellis is planning to do to the world of 2099.

Back in the early nineties, like many of his peers, Ellis was considered one of the great writer hopes in the British brain drain. But unlike most of his peers such as Garth Ennis, Mark Millar and John Smith he eluded the Vertigo net and ended up at the Marvel cable. Since then he has made his mark with the

row, World!

critically acclaimed *Hellstorm* and by turning the shy, demure Kitty Pryde into a drinking, smoking hellcat when he took over *Excalibur*.

Now he threaten's to turn the world of 2099 on it's head in the biggest shake up since it's creation when he takes over the reigns of *Doom 2099* with issue 26. The 'One Nation Under Doom' storyline will have long range, and devastating effects to Marvel's pocket Universe. But how did a madman from the south of England get to weld so power?

"I'd already agreed to take over the book. I was just putting together my plots and I'd done a statement of intent piece for Joey, Cavalieri Doom 2099's editor~ saying I wanted to make the book more political, more straight SF and remove all the superhero trappings that were left. I wanted to turn the book towards some kind of political apocalypse by the end of the first year. The original plan was to have him kill everyone in England. Then Joey rang up and said This is great but we've had an idea we want to try out on you, how about if Doom took over America instead?' And hating America more than I do this place, it appealed to me."

But why America?

"My perception is that this story has been running from issue 1 of *Doom 2099* when he retakes Latveria, the tiny European state that is his homeland. He states at the end of that first story arc that in order to protect Latveria he's going to have to do something about the rest of the world. So all through John Francis Moore's run, which is right up to issue 25, we see Doom running around stealing useful bits of technology, gathering information and generally being a bit of a bastard"

But it didn't seem to be going towards anything, so when I sat down I thought hold on, he's been running around like a blue-arsed-fly across the face of the planet for the last 25 issues like a sodding magpie and he's not doing anything w*h it! It made sense that he would perceive the greatest threat to the world of 2099 to be America because corporate America runs across the planet like some berserk fucking predator. In order to save the world from itself, and to protect Latveria, the most obvious place to start would be by saving America from itself. In the first step to protecting his homeland, he realises he has to redesign the rest of the planet first."

With such major changes going on how did the writers on the other 2099 books deal with it?

"There was a three day 2099 conference in New York which brought all the writers together. The first day everyone came in spoiling for a fight because they thought this was going to be an X-Men conference) where some bastard is going to write the plot for them. So basically 1 sat down and said 'This is what I'm going to do, the rest of you bastards can do what you like."' That famous Ellis charm instantly winning the team over.

"The second day everyone started shouting at each other and ignoring me cause I'd said my bit, so I said 'Fuck this!' and went shopping. I didn't turn up on the third day. I simply told them what I was going to do and they could interact with it any way they liked. Being a writer the last thing I wanted to do was fuck over any other writers. I think most of them touched on it a bit. All they reaUy needed to do, to cross it over, was to have Doom on television in one panel. Peter David has given it just a cursory mention, but some choose to interact more. Len Kaminski decided to have Doom turn up and make Ghost Rider the Marshall of Transverse City."

But *Doom 2099* is not the only title the sarcastic Southerner is writing. He is still working on *X-Calibre*. "[It] can be a bit of a bind sometimes but you expect that, *'s par for the course when you do an X-Men book. It's freer in some ways and more difficult in others. The X-Men seem to have a set of rules and laws unto themselves." Never a truer word spoken.

So surely this must be a fanboy's dream to work on an X-title? "I was never a huge fan of Marvel comics as a kid. Obviously I saw some of the Black and white Marvel reprints in the seventies but the comics I really read were British. So I have no great love for Marvel comics. My 'passion' is just to write good comics. If someone offers me a character I'll see if there is anything I would enjoy on a take on that character and if I can't see it I won't do it. For instance I've just started work on a 4-issue revamp of *Thor*, a character that doesn't really appeal to me at all, apart from the fact that it is an old Marvel icon, it's a Jack Kirby character from 1962 that hasn't changed since. That's being drawn by Mike Deodato [*the guy who drew the recent Wonder Woman*]"

Oh, so lots of cheesecake then?

"Unfortunately no. Lots of beefcake. Thor running around without his shirt a lot, in a pair of leather trousers. It's going to be the big beefcake book of '95!" Ladies order your copies now.

Druid

Ellis has also got a new ongoing series, *Druid*, starting the same month as Doom's 'World Tour' reaches it's climax.

"Druid is one of Marvel's oldest characters. He predates the Fantastic Four and all that. In 1961 Jack Kirby and Stan Lee came up with a character called Doctor Droon. Who was this mystic character who supposedly had Celtic abilities. Later in the seventies he was renamed Doctor Druid, so I'm told. This is all hearsay, the first time I heard of Doctor Druid was a year ago. Supposedly he was given his powers by the same guy who gave Dr. Strange his powers, The Ancient One. The idea was that Dr. Druid was supposed to be a dry run before empowering Dr. Strange a few years later which possibly explains why Dr. Druid got all the shitty abilities, and why he's rubbish! So he spent his entire career as this sad man with a receding hairline running around in spandex trying to be a superhero for no good reason. And he was then beaten up, humiliated and shat upon," Says Ellis in sadistically gleeful voice.

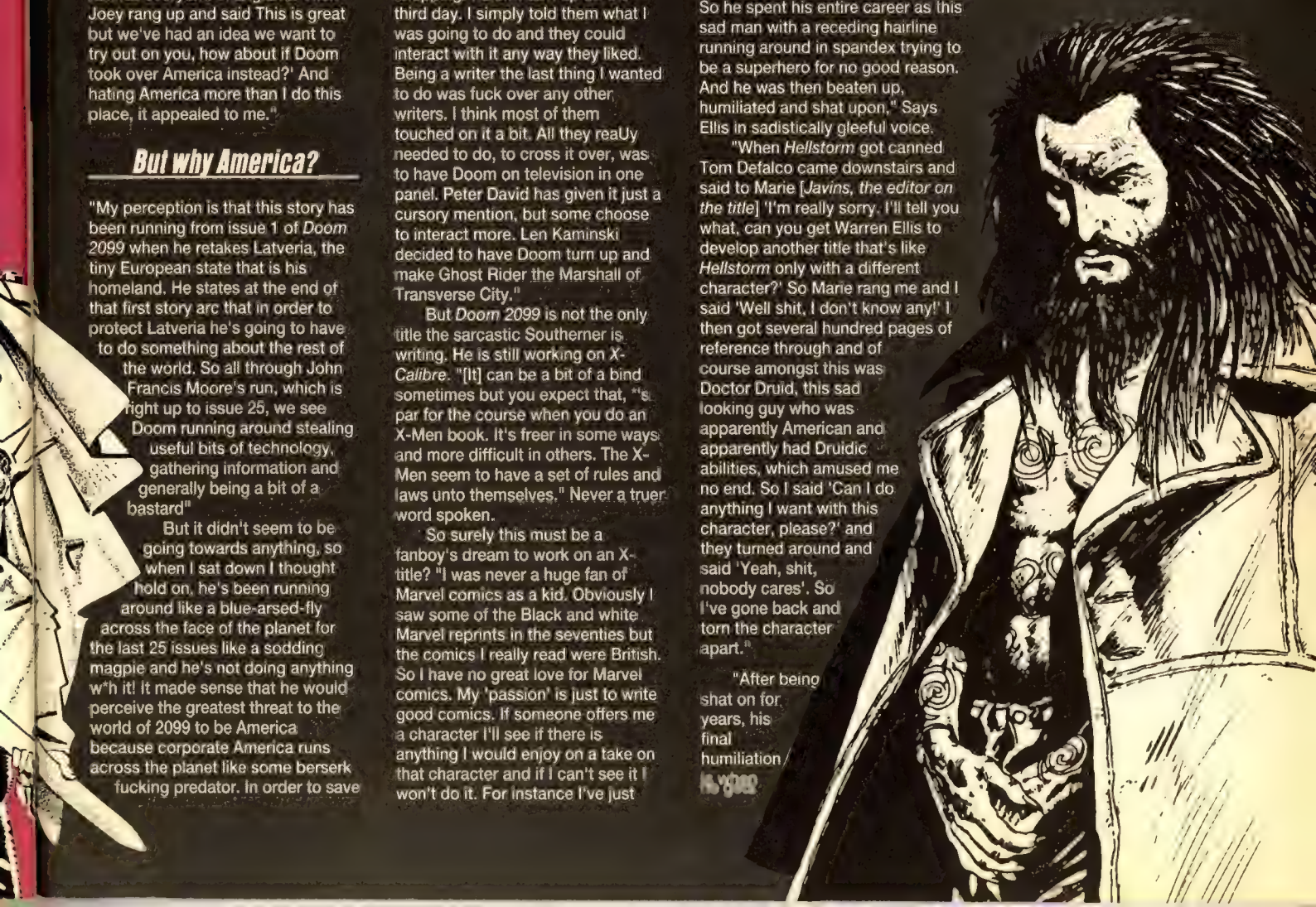
"When *Hellstorm* got canned Tom Defalco came downstairs and said to Marie [*Javins, the editor on the title*] 'I'm really sorry, I'll tell you what, can you get Warren Ellis to develop another title that's like *Hellstorm* only with a different character?' So Marie rang me and I said 'Well shit, I don't know any!' I then got several hundred pages of reference through and of course amongst this was Doctor Druid, this sad looking guy who was apparently American and apparently had Druidic abilities, which amused me no end. So I said 'Can I do anything I want with this character, please?' and they turned around and said 'Yeah, shit, nobody cares'. So I've gone back and torn the character apart."

"After being shat on for years, his final humiliation is over

beaten up by Damon Hellstorm in the first issue and this just sends him completely over the top! It drives him completely mental. At this point he performs a set of rituals that have lain in the back of his brain when he got empowered in Tibet but, quite frankly, has never had the guts to use because they're so disgusting. He comes out the other end with the truer abilities of a Druid. Having established that he is actually English we find out he is very, very powerful as mystic characters go. The only drawback is that this has left him barking mad and his agenda is basically ego stroking. He is now a wonderfully powerful magician and he is going to go out in the world and supposedly do good. He was always supposed to be a kind of occult investigator type but he's now decided that he's only going to take on cases that he can either solve really, really easily or cases that will give him more occult knowledge. Basically he's looking for people he can beat up really easily."

A mystic England football fan? "Very similar except he has a bigger vocabulary and he drools more."

And still the Ellis machine keeps on rolling. He takes over Dr. Strange with Mark Buckingham on issue 80 "For some reason they like me doing the magic stuff." And the ultimate What If? story at the end of the year. No wonder that when asked: What has given you the most pleasure in the last year? His reply is: "Days off." CW



DEAD again?

"I can guarantee you that this is a whole different story," says Mike Carlin, the Superman titles' Group Editor. "The biggest difference is that Clark Kent's death is more of a 'death'."

This 7-part metaphorical expiration starts with a prologue in *Man of Steel #44* and then crosses over all the main Superman titles beginning the main storyline with *Superman 100*. This issue is a 64 page special with a holographic cover and is also part of DC's '100's' celebration when *Flash, Superman, Justice League America, Wonder Woman* and *Green Arrow* reach their centenary in consecutive months.

The story kicks off when one of Superman's deadliest enemies (who, DC isn't telling. As usual they are playing their cards close to their chest.) discovers his secret identity. One supposes that the villain drew a pair of glasses on a photo of the 'flying boy scout' and put two and two together. "[This is] everything he's feared the most. Now his inner circle, his family and friends are threatened and so he must put Clark Kent to rest. It's not a physical death for Clark or Superman, 'though for the people around him it might be." Ominous words for Jimmy, Lois and the gang. "Superman, Ma & Pa Kent, Clark and Lois are all in a witness protection programme," jokes Carlin.

Controversy is something that this Group Editor has never shied away from but he denies any such contention with the original death. "Death in comics happens all the time, if we'd been the first people to kill Superman I'd have been nervous about the story. We never said it was a brand new idea, maybe our execution *[groan]* was different than that of the past. There have been stories in the old days where villains have figured out Clark's secret identity, but not in our current continuity and not to the extent that we're planning to explore."

So Clark's multiple personality disorder is going to be fully examined at last?

"No, I don't think so," says Dan Jurgens, the writer/penciller of Superman, "I don't see them being that different. In the old days Clark

Two years ago DC killed Superman. The resultant storylines threw the Superman titles to the top of the charts beating Marvel for the first time in years. Then they brought him back from the dead. Now, 25 issues on, in Superman 100, they're going to kill Clark Kent.
What the hell's going on?

was a bit of a stumble-bum and Superman was this perfect guy, but both are idealistic characters. To me Superman is really Clark Kent. Whereas if you look at Batman, you couldn't say that Batman is really Bruce Wayne. They're two different personalities. With Superman it is the other way around."

How about general media interest? When Supes last shuffled off this mortal coil there was no escaping it. "We've been getting a bit of the outside world's attention like we did with the death of Superman."

"It's not quite the fever pitch of the previous story," interjects Jurgens, " but a few newspapers and radio stations are keen."

But the scent of commercial hype still hangs heavy in the air.

"The first thing I'd say is tough. That whole angle is starting to irritate me. Do people expect us not to do interesting stories? We're trying to do good stories here, if they turn out to be big public events, good for us!We're in the business of selling comic books. I don't see the crime is in respect to getting people to buy your comic books and getting interested in your storylines."

But doesn't all this revisionism get boring?

"The hardest thing," says Jurgens, "is right now there aren't many ever lasting changes we can make to the core characters, so you're unlikely to have Jimmy Olsen die tomorrow." Phew! Close call there Jim. "Our audience think they know the truth, and to a certain degree they do, but then there are the sidelines where we can play around with reader's perceptions."

"As the years go by we have new readers who aren't aware that the premise is something that has been seen before and hopefully because we're different people executing the ideas, we can't help but bring something different to it." Adds Carlin. "[We like to] keep the interest going every couple of years with a sensational story. It's actually a lot of fun."

The Superman creators appear to be a very tightly knit group, a well oiled machine, a synergy of. . . "Actually we all hate each other." Laughs Carlin. "The corny answer is, like any family we have fights, but like any family we are working towards perpetuating the family fortune. We are all interested in making Superman a popular hero and we take great pride in the fact that killing Superman actually saved him. Ultimately we evolved a way of working were we try and include everybody in the pros and cons. Not everyone gets their way, but for the sake of the character we work things out." Jurgens agrees, "We are able to do things on these titles that wouldn't be possible if we didn't work closely together. It allows everyone an opportunity to bring something in." As for working with his main collaborator and inker, Brett Breedings, Jurgens has nothing but praise. "I think our styles mesh very well, not only that, but thematically we think the same way about comics and what makes for an entertaining story."

Ironically, Jurgens stops pencilling with *Superman 100*, to concentrate on writing the title. "I'm also doing some other projects at the moment including one for Valiant which is being inked by Kevin Nowlan, which is due in May."

But in the meantime seems as if the one big happy Superman family will keep on going from strength to strength, breathing new life (and death) into old favourites.

"We've got guys who have stuck with these titles for 7 or 8 years. I feel that together we do something pretty cool." says Carlin proudly. Finally Jurgens concludes "For everyone who works on Superman it is a true joy!" CW

ELLISON WO

Harlan Ellison Introduces Steve Holland

If a picture paints a thousand words, you should be able to adapt most of Harlan Ellison's stories into 2 or 3 panels. For a minute, let's say you could, and you can fit two stories to a page, and maybe fifty stories to an issue of Dream Corridor...

To adapt all the stories that appeared within two years of Ellison seeing his first story in print in 1956, would take three issues alone. You could have a special 'Award Winners' issue. At fifty stories a time, we're still talking a limited series of 35 or so issues. If you were to put all the words that have streamed from his typewriter over the years end of end and walk up them, you'd die of asphyxiation.

In the Golden Age of Science Fiction (that's aged 14 or 16 or so) Ellison struck like a snake: one minute I'm reading Arthur C. Clarke and wondering how you can raise a spaceship trapped in moondust, and the next I'm a harlequin saying get stuffed to the relentless Ticktockman, and thinking maybe a Chris Foss spaceship didn't really sum up Ellison's All the Sounds of Fear collection and maybe he's not the bete noire OF anything...just THE bete noire (because, like the New York Times reviewer being quoted, I thought it meant 'Dark Beast' or something cool like that; I learned later that in proper context it means something that should be detested, or a pet aversion). The years pass; I can't wait for Deathbird Stories, or Shatterday, or Angry Candy to come out (if they ever do) in a UK edition, because I have to catch up with any stories I've missed, and buy Omni for the first time in a decade because it has Ellison's 'Mephisto in Onyx' in it, and that's worth the £3.50 (or whatever) on its own.

Now Ellison catches up with me and has his own comic, Harlan Ellison's Dream Corridor coming out from Dark Horse and I get to talk to him. So I shut the hell up because I've only ten or fifteen minutes to catch every pearl the man utters. A long time later, I mentally add another colour page to the feature.

"The comic that I first remember having was the 1939 World's Fair Comic, which was the comic DC published - long before it was DC - that eventually became *World's Finest Comic*, the anthology that had Superman and Batman in it. They issued two comics, one in 1939 and one in 1940, for the famous New York's Worlds Fair, what they called the Century of Progress. I still have it - it's worth hundreds and hundreds of dollars. And when I was a kid there was a comic company called Centaur who had a comic called *Man of War*, and I loved *Man of War*. I also loved *Plastic Man* that Jack Cole created, I read *Airboy* and 'The Heap' which was a secondary feature in *Airboy Comics*; mostly, the comics that I liked the most were the DC comics like *Starman* and *Hourman* and *Dr Fate* and *The Sandman* and the Quality Comics: *Feature Comics*, *Crack Comics*, and *Modern Comics* - which actually began as *Military Comics* and then became *Modern Comics* - and that was the one that featured Blackhawk, and I loved Blackhawk.

"So I was sort of all over the lot in what I read. I never liked Archie sort of comics or kid comics, I was always reading the adventure comics, and I had a vast collection when I was a kid. I still have it."

The affection for these old characters comes tumbling out of Ellison. Half a century later he has every kid's dream come true....his own comic.

"That's exactly what it is. I keep saying that every time I give an interview. It's really the most improbable dream in the world. You see, I have a number of abilities, and I figure I'm pretty good at some of them. Writing is one, and I could sing for a living, and I was a brick layer and a truck driver - I could do all of those things - but one of the talents I do not even have a vestige of is drawing. I cannot draw to save my life. So I'm hideously frustrated because in my head I can see exactly what I want, and I can't do it. But I've been blessed through the years by having made friends with and working with various artists who have come identified with my work like Barclay Shaw, Jill Bauman and Leo & Diane Dillon...these are all people

ONDERLAND

'to his Dream Corridor.

TO THE EXPERIMENTAL BUILDINGS
THE PROFESSOR HAD SURVIVED BECAUSE HE HAD COME UP FROM PEASANT STOCK, AND HE KNEW HIS PLACE IN THE WORLD OF THE LORDS
I HAVE BEEN SUBSIDIZING YOU FOR FAR TOO LONG, PROFESSOR--
RATS DANCED IN THE PROFESSOR'S EYES -- BUT HE KNEW HE WAS HELPLESS
--BUT YOUR FOOLISH EXPERIMENTS MAY AT LAST PROFFER SOME REWARD
LORD, WHAT DO YOU WANT THAT I CAN POSSIBLY GIVE?
YOU WILL SEND ME BACK ONE HUNDRED YEARS--
--AND IF YOU DO NOT, I WILL BURN OUT FIRST YOUR LEFT EYE, AND THEN YOUR RIGHT
THEN YOUR LEFT LEG, AND THEN YOUR RIGHT
AND THEN
BUT, MY LORD, WE HAVE NOT YET PERFECTED THE MACHINE
WE CAN SEND YOU ONLY TO ONE HISTORIC ERA AND ONLY ONE GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATE
TO THE MESOZOIC
MORE SPECIFICALLY TO THE UPPER JURASSIC PERIOD
--APPROXIMATELY ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY MILLION YEARS AGO

with whom I have struck up a rapport so that I describe what I see in my head and they're able to draw it, and often they enhance the things I've seen in my head, and this comic, the way it's laid out, the structure, the framing device, all of that is mine.

"This is the way I wanted my comic to be right from the very very first. The big difference between this comic and other comics you might call franchise comics that have - and I use this word advisedly, and I hope you will put quotation marks around it - other 'celebrity' comics such as the ones that Tekno Comix are doing, with the exception of the ones that Neil Gaiman's books because Neil actually did write the concepts for those...this is really and truly *my* comic - it's not some kind of absentee landlord deal, I'm in there every day doing work, every day editing, every day picking the artists, working with the adapters helping them select the stories, in the case of some of the stories that were written back in the fifties or sixties, suggesting to them ways in which they could be updated to make them relevant to the Nineties, I go over every page of art, I go over all the balloons - I'm the one who does the correcting to make sure the spelling is right - I write all the advertising copy, the catalogue copy, the liner notes, all of this stuff. There has not been a day in the past two years where I've not spent part of the day working on this book. Bob Schreck, my editor, and I are umbilically joined on this. In fact I

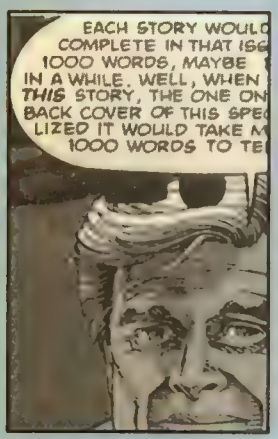
drive him absolutely crazy. The poor man just had his gall-bladder removed and he was being aggravated on the books even while he was in hospital.

"It's a real hands-on project. It's not something where I've just leased my name. When someone buys this comic, what they're buying are my very best efforts."

In writing you're usually in control of every key stroke - except for comics where the finished product has had input from the penciller, inker...even the letterer can alter the whole tone of a story with different emphasis on different words. So how easy is it to let go?

"It's very easy for me. I have been working in motion pictures and television since 1962 and one of the things I learned very early on was that, that which is written for the page is very different from that which is written for the screen, whether it's the large screen or the small screen. And I am far more...I guess the word is merciless, with my own material when it has to be adapted than other are. In fact the very, very few times I have allowed other people to adapt one of my stories for television or film, I have found that with very few exceptions they've been wholly inadequate, and they've been inadequate because they have had...I dunno, a reverence, a fear, whatever the hell it is, for the original material that has blinded them to the understanding that they must in fact, alter some things. I mean, in writing a prose piece you have the omniscient author who gives you the overview; well, you can't have such a thing in a visual medium like television or the cinema because the only alternative you have to that is the voice-over, and the voice-over is wholly unsatisfactory, so you have to devise visual alternatives to the things that are in a story, and I learned that decades ago, and have been very, very hard on my own work in term of authoring it to fit the medium. I'm not going to debase it, but I will find logical visual alternatives. And it's the same for a comic book: all you have to do is find visual alternatives for things like internal monologues that are in a story.

"In fact, on a number of occasions - and I'm not going to tell you which artists and which writers - but a number of times they have been slavish to the original material and a story that should have been 4 or 5 pages has come out at 10 or 11 because they think they have to put in every twist and turn that I had, and I have had to send the thing back to them and say, 'No, this has got too much fat in in, you've got to pare it down,' because it's a different medium entirely.


EACH STORY WOULD
COMPLETE IN THAT ISS
1000 WORDS, MAYBE
IN A WHILE. WELL, WHEN
THIS STORY, THE ONE ON
BACK COVER OF THIS SPE
LIZED IT WOULD TAKE M
1000 WORDS TO TE

Art © The Kilimanjaro Corporation

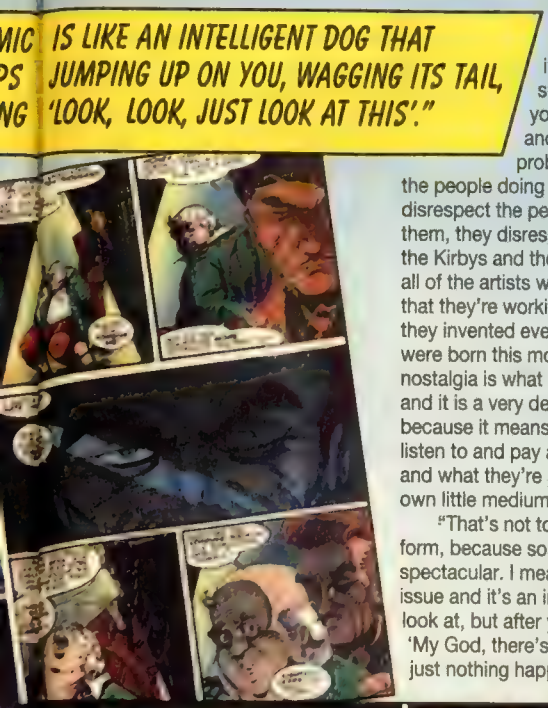
"You'll notice that the styles of art are very different in each story. They range from very contemporary to comic to the traditional Doug Wildey looking thing (*in the Special*) which is a fully-painted western, and that's the way every issue is going to be. It's not going to be whatever the trendy art of the day is, it's not going to be that big, splashy Image kind of stuff with no story content, although there are several stories we have coming up which have been done in exactly that style. But I have insisted that they be very, very narrative. Mike Deodato, for instance, did the illustrations for Peter David's adaptation of my story 'Catman' which we're doing in two parts, and it's spectacular. It's filled with these huge super-hero kind of images, but it fits the story absolutely perfectly and it's very, very dramatic and that's what I'm going for. I want adults who grew up on anthology comics and who have longed for this kind of book again to say 'Yes, this is why we started reading comics when we were younger and why we kept on reading them when everybody told us they were just for kids.' It's an adult comic, but its got the sensibility of a comic book: it's not a graphic novel and there's nothing hoitsy-toitsy about it... There is a nobility in comic books, and I'm not going to lie about it and pretend that it's anything other than what it is. It is a comicbook. It is a book of stories told in sequential comic form. It's the traditional thing, and I think that is the noblest endeavour."

Generation 'X'

With so many comics now looking like pin-up galleries with no story to back up the art, I wonder how Harlan feels about how comics have changed over the years.

"What happened I think, is that the tail has begun wagging the dog. First comes the word, always. But we are part of a generation that has been gulled by the image of the *auteur* which is what directors pretend to be. Directors are not storytellers in film: they take a story and then their egos take over and they say 'Well, this is only the ground plan. I will now bring it to life with these great visuals.' Well, film *is* visual but it *must* have the screenplay and there is the concept of using film as film: you use the visual to tell the story as opposed to just using words and images. It's a different way of doing it, but it's equally as important and equally the same as the traditional mimetic form of storytelling. And the kids from Image have not been brought up on the written word, they've been brought up on images, on television and (if they're lucky) on movies, but mostly on television and not even good television: it's M.T.V. quick-cut, three-second-shot kind of stuff, it's just Bam! Bam! Bam! image. That's all it is, just images. That's all they get, and there's no continuity - it's a dis-continuous skip-logic kind of way of watching something. On a music video that doesn't much matter. I mean you've got the music that's the thread that runs through, and what you're trying to do is convey the music, so you'll show a semi-naked woman, and then a guy rippling his chest muscles, and then some people running up a hill, and it doesn't really matter.

"Now, for anyone looking at a printed page, it doesn't work. But it's the form and the idiom that this generation now perceives as the way to convey a message. So what they've got themselves is an audience that is being steadily corrupted, of kids who *cannot* follow a story, who *don't want* to follow a story. It's like trying to get a 15-year-old kid to listen to Bartok, or Stravinsky: it's just white noise to them because they've been bought up on rap and rock, and



they cannot listen to the other. Kids are very susceptible: they are told 'This is the only thing that is hip, this is the only thing that is cool, this is the only thing that obtains at the moment, and everything else is irrelevant. Not only should you not know it, you should disrespect it,' and that's where the problem comes in because the people doing the Image comics disrespect the people who went before them, they disrespect the Eisners and the Kirbys and the Reed Crandells and all of the artists who created the form that they're working in. They think that they invented everything because they were born this morning. For them, nostalgia is what they had for breakfast, and it is a very destructive attitude, because it means that they can only listen to and pay attention to themselves and what they're producing from their own little medium.

"That's not to denigrate the Image form, because some of that art is very spectacular. I mean, I read *Spawn* every issue and it's an impressive comic to look at, but after you get done, you say 'My God, there's no story here. There's just nothing happening,' and ultimately, I think, that's very discouraging. But to an audience who don't know they're not getting it...it's like trying to convince someone who has grown up on Macdonalds Toadburgers that they really should be trying breast of guinea hen. They don't know from it: it's foreign and utterly alien to them and they don't want to know it exists and so they are trapped in their own ignorance. They're not stupid, just uneducated. They don't know any better.

"And this in a way is, I think, a really egregious thing on the part of the Image guys because they continue to feed this adolescent need for peer pressure, they continue to push their audience into a smaller and smaller box for their own aggrandisement when they deny them the rest of the world. And I think that that's keeping an audience stupid. *Dream Corridor* on the other hand says, 'Wait a minute, the world is a whole hell of a lot bigger. Look at this, comics don't have to be just guys running around in capes and tights. Look at this, here's a western, here's a mystery, a love story, an adventure story,' and it's my hope that this will take us back some to the era of really good storytelling in comics. It's a comic absolutely dedicated to entertaining the ass off you. This comic is like an intelligent dog, like a Puli or a really smart Afghan, that just keeps jumping up on you, wagging its tail, and saying 'Look, look, just look at this'."

There have been stories that would be pretty much impossible to adapt - Ellison names the award-winning 'Jefty is Five' as one he's often refused to see turned into a motion picture because if you cut out the emotion to get to the plot you've lost the *reason* for the story. In the main, however, Ellison has allowed his collaborators to choose their own closet off the dream corridor.

"John Byrne picked 'I Have No Mouth And I Must Scream' and he wanted to do it, so we said 'Go ahead,' and we're doing it in four parts. It's a very odd, very peculiar adaptation on his part, and so because it is a little odd for my taste, we're running the original story in sections along with the parallel sections of art. In the case of 'On the Slab', I think Faye Perozich picked that herself because she wanted to do it, and then we cast around for the right artist; and of course, the only person doing that kind of thing in the style of, say, Roy Krenkel or Joseph Clement Coll or J. Allen St. John, is Gary Gianni, and fortunately Gianni was working for Dark Horse at the time doing *The Shadow* so we were able to get him. That was just a happy confluence of potentials there.

"Most of the stories I picked because I said 'OK, I really want this strange mix. I do want to start off with a standard comicbook kinda story just so people can get into it and feel comfortable, but then lets give them a western, and then something funny, then a dark gangster story.' And when I picked Mike Gilbert on 'Rat Hater', Mike Gilbert had never done this kind of thing but I kept looking at the *Mr. Monster* stuff and thought *This guy could really do a very dark,* noir *gangster* story, and I think he would have the proper period feel to it if we gave it to him. So we have hired a lot of people that people are going to be very surprised about. I mean, I hired Mark Nodell, the old *Green Lantern* artist - he did a little fantasy story for me called 'Gnomebody' - it's one of my little, light, frivolous, one-punch kind of fantasies - and he did a wonderful job. We hired Jay Lynch and Skip Williamson - Skip Williamson to do a gangster story much like 'Rat Hater', and Jay Lynch to do another one. We've hired mainstream artists, we hired pin-up kind of artists, underground artists - it's a real wide range. Frank Miller wanted to do my story 'The Diagnosis of Dr. Darkangel', and it perfectly fits Frank's style.

"So I've tried to allow anybody who wanted to pick a story to do the one they wanted, but I've tried to direct some people in other directions. Diana Schutz picked - of all the stories in the world she could have picked - she picked one of my most difficult stories, a story called 'Knox' which is about a racist and a bigot, and she got Teddy Kristiansen to do it, and I tell you, when I saw the pages that Teddy did at the Chicago Convention last year, I started to cry. I'm a sixty-year-old man for Christ's sake, and I started to cry. That's how beautiful those pages were. I just couldn't believe how adroitly and how sensitively Diana as the adapter and Teddy as the artist had conveyed my absolute utter gut-level abhorrence of racism and bigotry. They had captured it all in this incredibly artful way, and the story is going to be very controversial and we'll get a lot of people upset because the story doesn't pull any punches. And we're going to do this kind of thing issue after issue. Every issue we're going to have one way or another a story that is offbeat and very difficult, like 'On the Slab' in the Special.

Dream Sequence

"I'm hoping this will be an ongoing project. When we started out, for the first catalogue that was coming out they wanted to say *Harlan Ellison's Dream Corridor* issue number one of five, and I said, no, no, I don't want that. If it goes 5, if it goes 8, if it goes 50 if it goes 100...I'm never going to let them start re-numbering, with that bogus #1 bullshit. They thought that a Special would be a good way of testing the water, and I didn't know if it would be or not but I figured OK, what the hell, they seem to know their marketing, and it's worked very, very well. The book's just about sold out, there's been an enormous number of re-orders, and the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 56

With a background in science fiction fandom and an imagination fired by Star Wars, Neal Hannan began reading 2000AD around the same time as he was reading Robert Heinlein and Isaac Asimov. As a younger member of the British Science Fiction Association, he slipped naturally into the comics end of the group, publishing his own fanzine, Seator and writing and drawing his own comic strip, "Stellashelters", although, he says, "I found out quite quickly that I wasn't very good at drawing."

[illegible] Nightfall [illegible] Mendip project was going to be Heavy Metal Fantasy and we were, I promptly got out in the cold, but at Nightfall, I felt I wanted to have a title that we could publish our work under, rather than under publishers and it would give us a sort of autonomy and control over it, and because I'd already come up with Bad To The Bone as an umbrella title, I felt it would suit well the work that we were sending, as rather than just stick to me and Rick, because we were doing work for Fantagor, and I was working with John Wedding and Derek Gray, and David Gough and Kev Cullen at the time, it seemed a good idea to keep it all together under one cohesive title and we have in fact used the Bad To The Bone logo on all of the creator owned titles that we've done for Fantagor.

"I'd been working with John for over ten years on and off, so he was an obvious choice to join the fold. Rick was obviously the co-founder of Bad To The Bone and Derek, I'd been working with for nearly four years - he was working on *Nightfall* with me, so was an obvious choice to come into it. David Gough is the latecomer to the team if you like. I first saw his work in, I think it was Summer '93, but he lives fairly local to me, he's a really nice guy and his work is totally amazing and although none of the artists have got a similar style, you can look across say, John's and Derek's and David's and Rick's and see a thread of, well more of an attitude really and common influences and I think that's

what people will remember from seeing Bad To The Bone publications. The artists aren't similar in any way, like you'd get an Image school of artists, but there is a common thread that runs amongst them. It's got, I think, perhaps something to do with age, because they're all round about the same age, 26, 27; a lot of them have got similar influences, but they all use that influence in a very different way."

The hook-up with FantaCo was prompted by this publication of a horror anthology [illegible]

[illegible]

things like *Weird West* and *Air Warriors*."

With Night of the Living Dead such a well known franchise, I wondered what it was like to create a series around such a well-known film?

"We were given complete carte blanche with it. We were just told that there's zombies in it, and that's fair enough as far as they're concerned, which was great. I must admit, personally I don't find zombies particularly scary, so our initial reaction was to spoof it and that's what we did. I've since done a slightly more serious zombie story called *Moonflesh*, but basically I don't find zombies everso terrifying. We put quite a detailed proposal forward as to what we were going to do, because I was wondering whether or not the Americans would see it in the same kind of light that we did, or whether they thought we weren't approaching the subject with the proper kind of reverence, but they liked the proposal and the series has done really well and it's actually been very popular. We've sold T-shirts with the anti-zombie logo on and we've got the collected edition coming out in the Spring, so it's done very well. However, Rik does not want to see another zombie again for as long as he lives, after drawing 120 plus pages of it in something like nine months on top of his day job!"

After *Night of the Living Dead* and the anthologies *Rabid* and *Weird West*, which Nathan describes as "sort of almost universe type series, set in the American West of the future," FantaCo have just released part one of the two-part *Air Warriors*, which is [illegible]

"That's by myself and Derek Grey, with beautiful painted covers by Tom Simonton. They're both 64-pages each, and it's an alternative world story with swashbuckling pirates and airships and fire breathing dragons and all sorts of things, all good fun. There's some nice quotes from Alan Grant and Pat Mills on the back as well, oh and one from Brian Talbot on the second volume. We're hoping to perhaps reformat that with a British publisher."

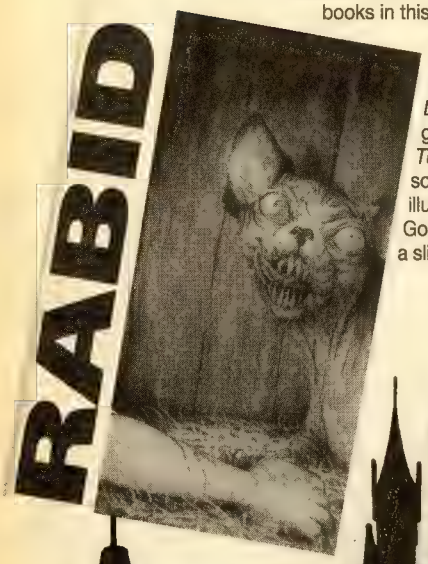
With so much already under his belt in a matter of only two years, Noel's not planning to slow down his output, which currently includes a couple of novels as well: "Yeah that's right. The comics first: we have an anthology *Heat Seeker* with all the usual Bad To The Bone crew and some new people that we've pulled in when we were at London, in September. The other thing we've got coming out, the big thing if you like, that we're working on at the moment is *Street Meat* which is a cyberpunk detective story, featuring a tough, female cop character. Rik is on that and I've written it and that'll be coming out as a two volume, roundabout 48 page each issue and each issue will have a text story in it as well, which Rik has written. Those will be in the *Hard Boiled* kind of format, like a magazine format, and there'll possibly be a collected edition as well; we've already started the preliminary work on the sequel to that, *Meat Eater*. Those will both be adults only titles.

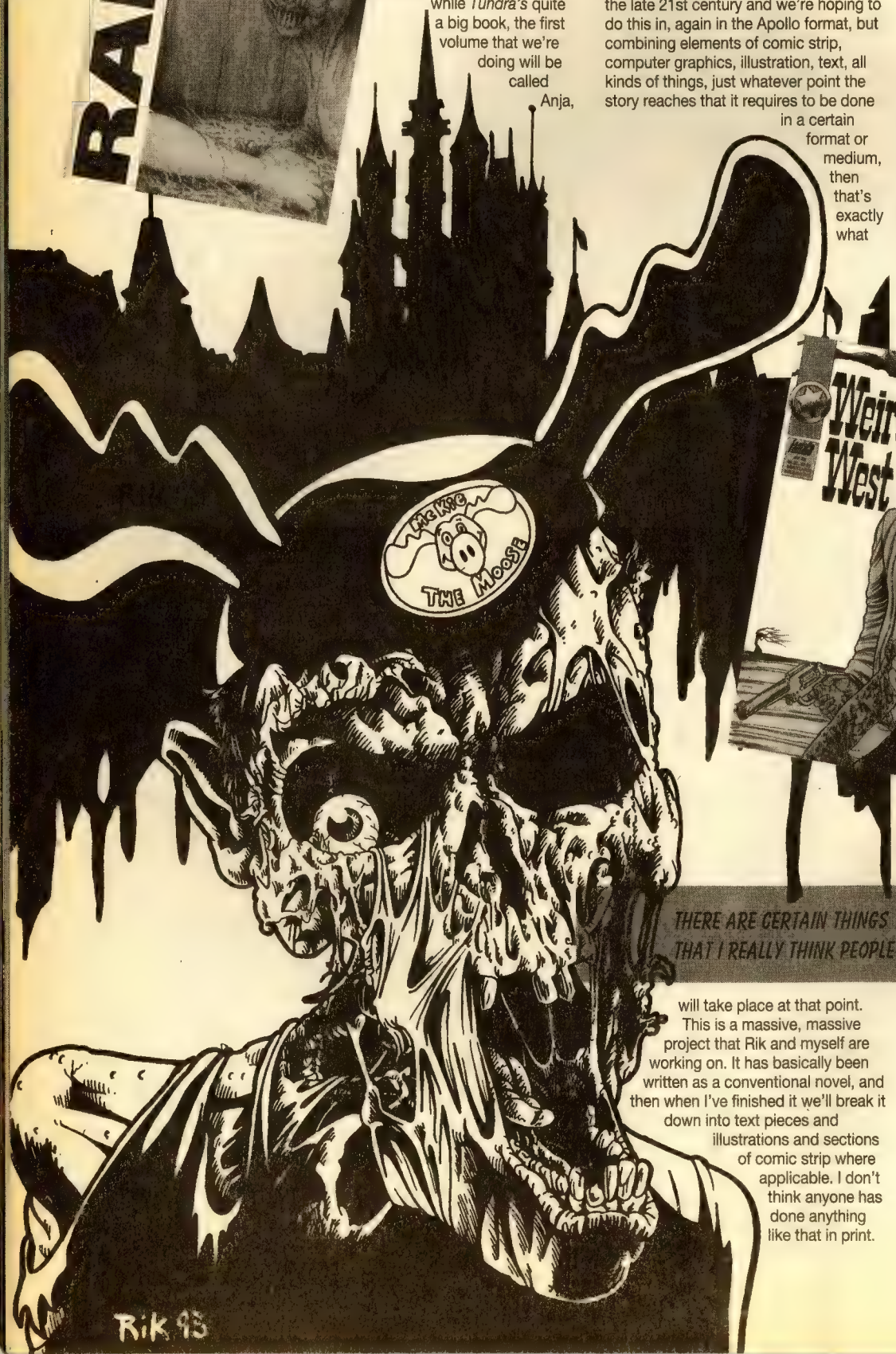
"The other comic we've got currently planned to come out is *Cyberium*, which is again a cyberpunk detective story with art by John Welding and that will be coming out as a 120 page graphic novel sometime in the Spring. There'll be an ashcan edition of that available a couple

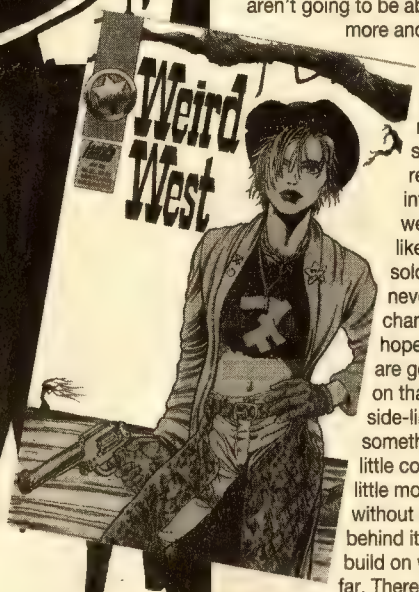
of months earlier, which I'm currently working on. That's about it for the comics at the moment. We've got lots of things penciled in, but those are the definites.

"The novels, me and Rick recently met with Tom Skulan, the Fantaco publisher and he wants to get out some books in this new Apollo format - it's a sort of six inch by nine inch format *[a la La Pacifica from DC/Paradox - Steve]*. I've got my first novel *Wild Tundra* coming out in that some time next year, with illustrations by David Gough. The first one will be a slimmer volume, because while *Tundra's* quite a big book, the first volume that we're doing will be called Anja, which is a character from 'Bad Moon Rising' in the *Weird West* stories and the subtitle of it is *Diamondback* and *the Mudman*, because it'll have a number of short stories inside that myself and Rik have written and Rik will be illustrating. We've also got a short novel called *The Cocktail Party*, a science fiction story which Rik will be illustrating and hopefully also a short story collection called *Nightfall Tales*, which is short stories by me, illustrated by all the Bad To The Bone crew. So hopefully, all four of those books will be out next year in the Apollo format.

"At the moment, I'm working on a novel called *Muscle* which is a cyberpunk story set in a de-federalised America in the late 21st century and we're hoping to do this in, again in the Apollo format, but combining elements of comic strip, computer graphics, illustration, text, all kinds of things, just whatever point the story reaches that it requires to be done in a certain format or medium, then that's exactly what will take place at that point. This is a massive, massive project that Rik and myself are working on. It has basically been written as a conventional novel, and then when I've finished it we'll break it down into text pieces and illustrations and sections of comic strip where applicable. I don't think anyone has done anything like that in print. There's been numerous attempts; I think the Byron Price people tried, like *The Stars My Destination* and what have you by Howard Chakin and Alfred Bester, but I don't think anyone has ever really taken a serious attempt at doing something totally new. We're going to be using Rick's artistic skill and also the state-of-the-art desktop publishing set ups to do this, and hopefully it will work. That about brings us up to date."



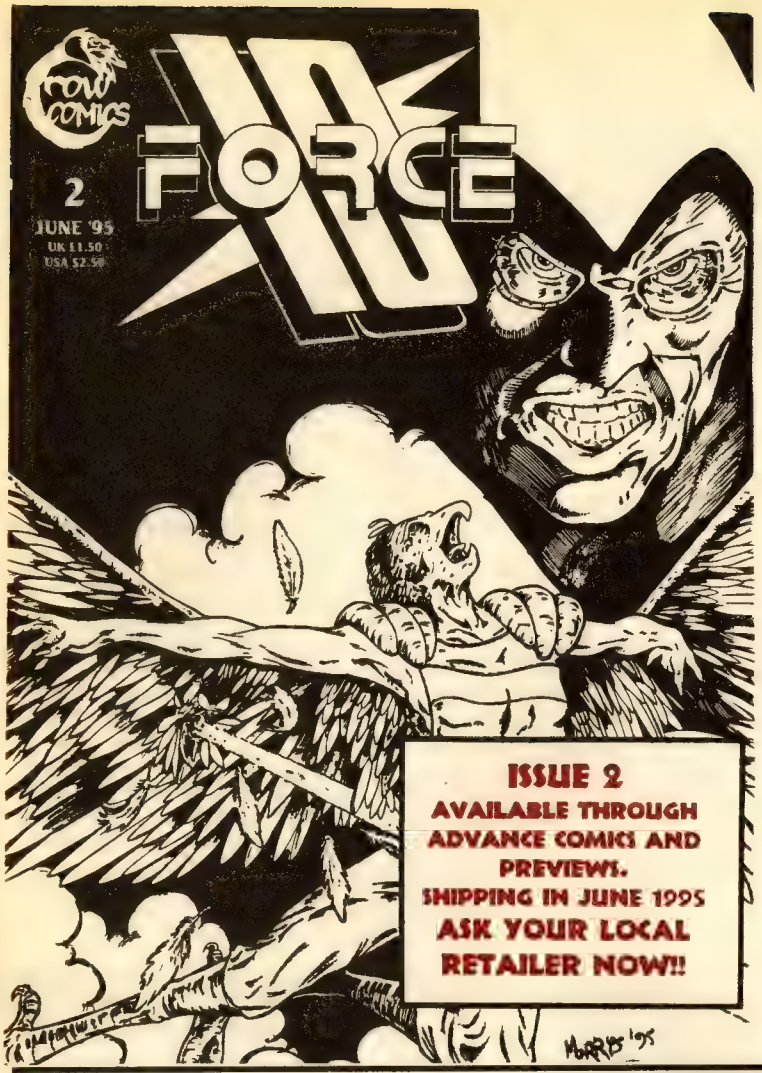




And, as if that wasn't enough, he's still thinking about what he wants to do in the future: "Ideally, I would like for our creator-owned projects to become so successful that I would never need to work on anyone else's titles ever again. I enjoyed doing *Night of the Living Dead* but if that's the last time I write for someone else's title then that would please me. I wouldn't rule out working on more mainstream work and other people's characters and other people's stories but I would really prefer to stick with FantaCo and stick with Bad To The Bone and stick with the guys that I've been working with for years now and really make a go of what we're doing, because I really do believe in it and I think we've got a lot of integrity, we're a strong team and we all support each other and I think if we stick with it for long enough and we keep in people's faces for long enough, I think that eventually people aren't going to be able to ignore us any more and hopefully we'll be up there soon. We've been doing this for a long time now and just about started to reap the rewards from it. The integrity thing is what we play because we like to think we've never sold out, but we've never really had the chance to really! But hopefully, the way things are going, I'd like to build on that rather than be side-lined off into something, you know, nice little commercial thing, nice little money spinner but without any sort of balls behind it, I'd prefer really to build on what we've done so far. There are certain things that we've done and are doing that I really think people aren't going to be able to ignore, like *Air Warriors*, once people start getting to see that over here, because they picture it in *Previews* and it just gets lost, you know, and just about breaks even; we get it published, but it doesn't really get out there and I think once people start seeing things like that and things like *Street Meat* and the *Anja* book and that, I think people really are going to have to start taking notice because we make a lot of noise, and we've been ignored for far too long."

THERE ARE CERTAIN THINGS THAT WE'VE DONE AND ARE DOING THAT I REALLY THINK PEOPLE AREN'T GOING TO BE ABLE TO IGNORE

But maybe not for much longer. CW



COME DOWN AND BE A PART OF THE NEW LEGEND IN COMICS

legend COMICS

Unit 627, Lakeside Pavilion, Lakeside Shopping Centre, West Thurrock, Essex

★ FOR THE LATEST MARVEL, DC, VALIANT, IMAGE, DARK HORSE, MALIBU ★

★ A WIDE SELECTION OF GRAPHIC NOVELS (including American imports) ★

★ SELECTED ROLE PLAYING GAMES ★

OPEN 10-8 MON-THUR, 10-9 FRI, 9-7.30 SAT. Open SUNDAYS

TEL: 0708 862675

TIME ZONE

NEW COMICS
POSTERS
TRADE PAPERBACKS
T SHIRTS
LIMITED EDITIONS
MAIL ORDER SERVICE

BACK ISSUES
TRADING CARDS
GRAPHIC NOVELS
ARCHIEVAL SUPPLIES
SIGNED COMICS
STANDING ORDERS

COMICS WANTED

To receive our next advance order catalogue send two second class stamps, £2.00 if preview required or give us a call

SHREWSBURY
12 Fish Street
Shrewsbury
Shropshire SY1 1UR
Tel: (01743) 365192

WARRINGTON
3 Academy Place
Warrington
Cheshire WA1 2NR
Tel: (01925) 651185

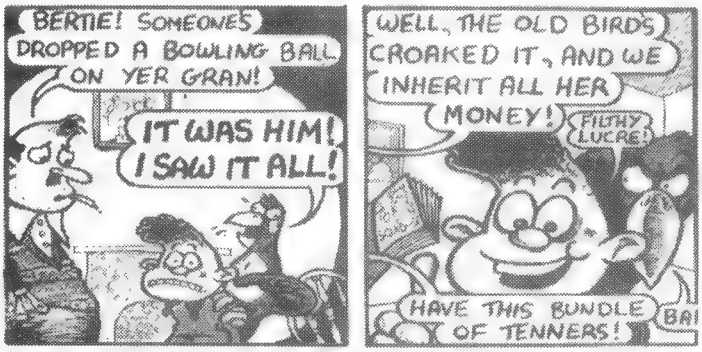
MAIL ORDER
12 Fish Street
Shrewsbury
Shropshire SY1 1UR
Tel: (01743) 365192

Who's Who IN BRITISH COMICS

ADRIAN, JACK see CHRISTOPHER LOWDER.

AGEE, JOHN/JACK see CHRISTOPHER LOWDER.

AGNEW, S(EAN) (?-). Belfast based adult humour artist who briefly worked for *Viz.*
STRIPOGRAPHY
Bertie Blunt, His Parrot's a Cunt (in *Viz* 32,38, Oct/Nov 1988, Oct/Nov 1989)
Young Stan, Son of Man (in *Viz* 36, Jun/Jul 1989)


BERTIE! SOMEONE'S DROPPED A BOWLING BALL ON YER GRAN!
IT WAS HIM! I SAW IT ALL!
WELL, THE OLD BIRDS CROAKED IT, AND WE INHERIT ALL HER MONEY!
FILTHY LUCRE!
HAVE THIS BUNDLE OF TENNERS!

Bertie Blunt (Viz, 1988). Art by S. Agnew

AGNEW, STEPHEN HAMILTON (?-1915?). Prolific writer of boys' stories around the turn of the century and after. Took up writing the Aldine *Dick Turpin Library* where the original author, Charlton Lea, left off. Lea's stories were full-blooded enough, but Agnew's were even more so. He had a notably picturesque, colourful, descriptive style and his stories were mainly of the weird, fantastic and hair-raising variety. Penned many other stories for Aldine Libraries, Newnes and Amalgamated Press, contributing to *Comic Life*, *Lot-o'-Fun* and *Chums* (in *Chums* he also wrote as Roy Allyne, Arthur Stephens, Kenneth Stephens and Colin Summers). He was reputedly killed on the Western Front in 1915; however, no records exist for Agnew despite extensive searches, and the name is thought to be a pen-name. [WL/DA] *>>MBBF*

AILEY, PAUL (E.C.) (1948-). Born in Hackney. One time art assistant and layout artist at Odhams, whom he joined around 1966 whilst very young. A contemporary colleague remarked later that it was quite extraordinary that Ailey could produce the fill-in artwork he did at that age. He rejoined IPC in the late 1970s, and was Fleetway Studio Manager in 1986/87. He later left the publishing business. [SH]
STRIPOGRAPHY
Biff (in *Wham!,* 1960s)
Little Adam and Eva (in *Jackpot*, 5 May 1979-1980)
Captain Klep (in *Tornado,* 1979)
Champ (in *Whizzer & Chips*, c1982)

AINSWORTH, EDGAR (1905-). Attended the Royal College of Art in the 1920s, and exhibited etchings at the Royal Academy in 1928-29; he later exhibited pen & wash drawings at the R.A. in 1947-59. At that time he was living in Chipperfield, Hertfordshire. In the 1940s he was an art editor at Hulton Press, producing layouts for *Picture Post*, then in its heyday under the editorship of Tom Hopkinson; he was also the layout man on the revitalised *Leader Magazine* in 1949, which folded to make way (and free-up the paper supply) for *Eagle*'s launch in April 1950. Ainsworth, a quite fiery-tempered, aggressive man who did not suffer fools gladly, remained with *Picture Post* until it folded in 1957. [SH]
STRIPOGRAPHY
Elizabeth Fry (biographical strip, in *Girl Annual 2,* 1955, by R.B. Saxe)

AITCH see HARRY HANAN.

AITCHISON, MARTIN (H.H.) (1919-). Martin Aitchison is best-remembered for "Luck of the Legion", written by Geoffrey BOND, a flamboyant series of full-colour Foreign Legion yarns in the centre pages of the Eagle. Originally intended only as a 12-part story, the story proved so popular that it ran for almost ten years.

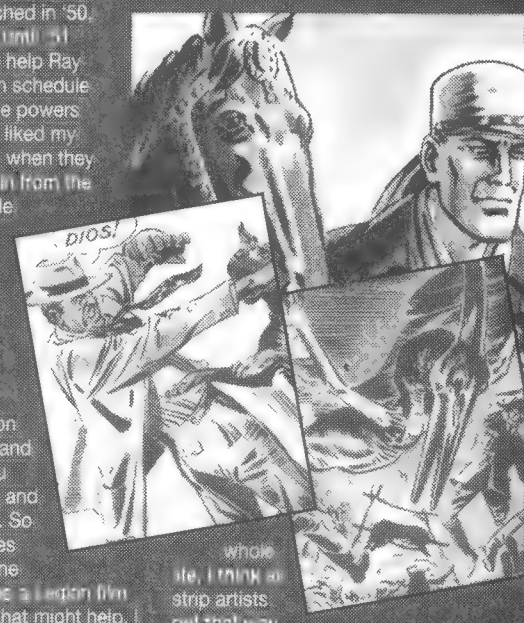
Born on November 21, 1919, Aitchison studied at Birmingham College of Art for four years, moving to Slade School of Art in 1939, shortly before being evacuated to Oxford during the War. He was excluded from military service because of deafness, but joined Vickers in Weybridge as a technical illustrator, mostly of handbooks for Wellington bombers but enlivened by some drawings for Barnes Wallace of a new dambusting bomb device. After the war he began freelancing advertising and magazine illustrations with no particular interest in cartoon strip work, although he was a follower of the war-time adventures of "Jane" in the *Daily Mirror* and the imported American strips, particularly "Rip Kirby".
In 1951 he was asked to assist Ray BAILEY to catch up on the schedule with his "Kitty Hawke" strip in *Girl,* the editors liking his work enough to drop the "Tintin" reprint strip from *Eagle* and replace it with the original "Luck of the Legion" in 1952. Sergeant Luck's desert adventures were treated with both tension and humour, the tone affected by Aitchison's introduction to the legion via a serio-comic movie he had seen in order to gain some reference for uniforms, etc.

At the same time as the weekly adventures of Luck, Trenet and Bimberg, Aitchison also drew the cartoon strip "Artie and Crafty" for *Swift,* although his association with writer Bond ended in 1961 when the latter emigrated to Australia.

The strip ended when Clifford MAKINS succeeded Marcus MORRIS as editor of Eagle; wanting to pursue a more modern style of strip, Aitchison was asked to draw "Danger Unlimited", although the strip lasted only a short time, as the Eagle changed hands and direction soon after. Aitchison continued to work for the *Eagle* until 1963 when he was offered his first illustration work by Ladybird Books, following in the footsteps of fellow Eagle artist, Robert AYTON and Frank HUMPHRIS. He has continued to work for Ladybird for many years, producing a total of some 80 books for them, mostly in water colour, his favourite being a larger-sized edition of "Gulliver's Travels" and a series on "Great Artists". In the late 1960s he also contributed illustrations to *World of Wonder*.

Of his time on *Eagle,* Aitchison has said: "They were lovely days, and it was a lovely paper. I can't use the word 'comic' in relation. Oddly enough, I got more and

MARTIN AITCHISON O



MA: The Eagle launched in '50, but I had no interest until '51 when I was asked to help Ray Bailey to catch up on schedule with his Girl strip. The powers that were must have liked my efforts here because when they decided to drop Tintin from the centrespread of Eagle they asked me to illustrate a new thing, 'Luck of the Legion', "and here's the script and we want the drawings next week."

I didn't know much about the legion except Beau Geste, and that it was where you went to foget things, and it was horribly tough. So what about references please? A voice on the 'phone said there was a Legion film on in North London that might help. I jumped on a bus and tried to memorise all the details of uniform, etc. Geoffrey Bond gave me some details of dress and procedure, two or three photos came from the Eagle, Hulton of course owning the famous Hulton Picture Library. The story was for twelve episodes; little did I imagine it would continue for ten years or so. After a while Luck & Co. seemed to have taken over my whole life, I think all strip artists get that way.

I must confess that during the first years I was taking things for granted rather and not until £57, on hearing that the circulation of the Eagle was dropping, did I really get down to it as seriously as I should have.

***WR:** Did you work closely with Geoffrey Bond?*

MA: No. I saw Geoffrey from time to time, coming and going to each others' houses for dinner a few

better space and scripts after the take-over in '61, but was never happy with the new set-up, or the seeming aim to make it more attractive to the readers of other IPC publications - meaning, I suppose, the Mirror, etc. And if that sounds a bit snooty, I can only add that Marcus Morris and Clifford Makins never held such ambitions. I never did any more strips, or tried to, after '62 when I concentrated on Ladybird Books, but I missed the tough aspect of strip work." [SH]
>>"Martin Aitchison" by William Rudling (in *Eagle Times*)

STRIPOGRAPHY

Kitty Hawke (in *Girl*, 1951. Assist. for Ray Bailey)
Luck of the Legion (in *Eagle*, 9 May 1952-16 Sep 1961, by Geoffrey Bond)
Pedro the Pirate (in *Eagle Extra* (supplement), 11 Sep 1953-Nov 1953)
Flick & the Vanishing New Girl (in *Girl Annual 1*, Sep 1952, by George Beardmore)
Artie and Crafty (in *Swift*, 2 Mar 1957-23 Sep 1961, by Geoffrey Bond)
Roddy the Road Scout (in *Swift*, 1960)
Danger Unlimited: Incident at Montego Bay (in *Eagle*, 19 Aug 1961-3 Mar 1962, by Steve Alen)
The Lost World (based on the novel by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, in *Eagle*, 10 Mar-21 Jul 1962, adapted by Richard Jennings)
Hornblower, RN (based on the novels by C.S. Forrester):
Lt. Hornblower, RN (in *Eagle*, 14 Jul 1962-2 Mar 1963; reprinted 21 Dec 1968-18 Jan 1969)
Captain Hornblower, RN (in *Eagle*, 18 Aug 1962-2 Mar 1963; reprinted 25 Jan-29 Mar 1969)
(some 80 illustrated children's books for Ladybird Books, 1963-present)

AITKEN, A(LBERT WILLIAM) DONNELLY (1892-1963). Born in London, and educated at Emmanual School, Cambridge, Aitken worked on the staff of Amalgamated Press from 1909 until he was called up for war service. He was the editor on such papers as *Modern Man* (1910) and *Fun & Fiction* (1911-14). He was also an author of numerous anonymous serials for the story papers *Dreadnought*, and *Chums*, and the comics *Butterfly*, *Favourite Comic* and *Merry & Bright*. Some stories in *Boys' Journal* and *Dreadnought* appeared under the names A. Donnelly and A. Donnelly Shannon. After serving with distinction in the Great War, reaching the rank of Major and suffering the loss of an arm, he returned to Fleet Street and edited *Chums* (1918-20), later joining the staff of Newnes in 1927 as assistant editor of *Titbits* where he remained until his death on January 8, 1963. [WL/DA]
>>*MBBF*

AKERBLADH, ALEXANDER (1886-195?). British artist, born 25 April 1886 and educated at Hernosand in Sweden. Studied architecture at the Glasgow School of Art in 1900 and was apprenticed to Sir J.J. Burnet, R.A. He studied art at St Johns Wood under Leonard Walker, and under the Munich painter Anton Binder in 1916. Began working as a strip illustrator with the Amalgamated Press in 1909 and exhibited widely in oil and water-colour. In the 1920s he worked from a studio in King's Road, London, and held a one-man show at the Fine Art Society in 1929. He travelled widely in the 1930s, exhibiting paintings of France and Majorca at the Royal Academy. In 1937 he was living in Tangier, returning to England in around 1940 to take up residence in East Blatchington, Seaford, in Sussex and then moving to London. In around 1957 he moved to South Africa where he died shortly after. [SH]
>>*DBA*; "Alexander Akerbladh Chronology" by Denis Gifford (in Comic Cuts 69, Nov/Dec 1984)

STRIPOGRAPHY

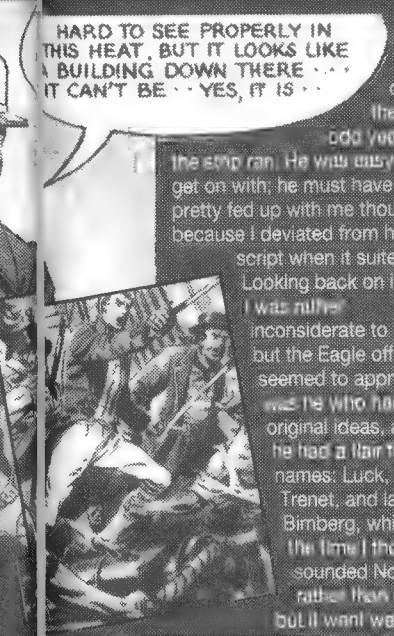
Hounslow Heath the Highwayman (in *Illustrated Chips*, 1909)
Artie Choke (in *Comic Cuts*, 1909)
Bobby Bluebell (in *Jester & Wonder*, 1910)
Tiny Toddles/Toddles the Big Booted Comedian (in Illustrated *Chips*, 1911)
Miggles (in *Illustrated Chips*, 1911)
Waddles the Waiter (in *Comic Cuts*, 1912-1925)
Pansy Pancake the Cook (in *Comic Cuts*, 1912)
Freddie Fluence the Merry Mesmerist (in *The Favorite Comic* 70-?, 18 May 1912-1912)
Jolly George the Goalkeeper (in *Illustrated Chips*, 1912)
Dr Jolliboys School (in *Puck*, 1912)
Timothy Touchwood (in *Firefly*, 1914)
Mrs Leech's Lodgers (in *Funny Wonder*, 1914)
Sammy Smart (in *Halfpenny Wonder*, 1914)
Harry Tate (in *Merry & Bright*, 1915)
T.E. Dunville (in *The Firefly*, 1916-1917/ in *Butterfly*, 1917)
Little Tich (in *Merry & Bright*, 1916)
Will Evans (in *Merry & Bright*, 1916)
George Robey (in *Merry & Bright*, 1916)
Fred Kitchen (in *Merry & Bright*, 1916)
Phil Ray (in *Merry & Bright*, 1916)
Appy Ann (in *Jester*, 1917)
Touchwood & Whistle (in *Merry & Bright*, 1917)
Sheerluck Bones (in *Merry & Bright*, 1917)
Bertie & Babs (in *Butterfly*, 1919)
Jingles Circus (in *Funny Wonder*, 1919)
The Misfits (in *Jester*, 1919)
Mabel Normand (in *Kinema Comic*, 1920)
Louise Fazenda (in *Kinema Comic*, 1920)
All the Fun of the Films (in *Merry & Bright*, 1920)
Nellie Wallace (in *Merry & Bright*, 1921)
Masie the Maid (in *Merry & Bright*, 1922)
I. Fittem the Tailor (in *Merry & Bright*, 1922)
Stan Fazackerley (in *Sports Fun*, 1922)
Baby Peggy (in *Film Fun*, 1924)
Peter the Pukka Page (in *Merry & Bright*, 1924)
Flossie & Fluffie (in *Merry & Bright*, 1924-1929)
P.C. Dee (in *Butterfly*, 1925)
Kind Hearted Horace (in *Butterfly*, 1925)
The Mysterious Misdeeds of Ivor Nastikoff (in *Merry & Bright*, 1925)
Cherry & Blossom (in *Merry & Bright*, 1925)
Jackie Coogan (in *Butterfly*, 1926)
Mustava Bunn (in *Merry & Bright*, 1926)
The Rollicking Rambles of Reggie & Roger (in *Larks 1-?*, 29 Oct 1927-1938)
Pals o' the Prairie! (in *Merry & Bright*, 1929)
High Jinks at High School (in *Merry & Bright*, 1929)
Terry & Trixie (in *Crackers* 159-544, 1932-1939)
Secret of the Twisted Creek (in *Jester*, 1932)
In Search of Their Father (in *Jingles*, 1934)
Freddie Bartholemew (in *Jingles*, 1936)
Nutty Bolt & Tom Random (in *Jingles*, 1937)
The Adventures of Bob & Betty Britten (in *Crackers*, 1937-1941)
Flanagan & Allen (in *Radio Fun 1-?*, 15 Oct 1938-?, by various)
Haver & Lee (in *Radio Fun*, 29 Jun 1940, by Sidney Bicknell, et al)
Our Brains Trust (in *Radio Fun 185-?*, 25 Apr 1942-1950, by Donne Avenell, et al)
Bob Hope & Jerry Colonna (in *Radio Fun*, 24 Mar 1945-?)
Issy Bonn Introduces the Famous Finkelfeffer Family (in *Radio Fun 470-?*, 11 Oct 1947-1950)
Jimmy O'Dea (in *Radio Fun*, 25 Oct 1947-?)
Jimmy Jewel & Ben Warriss (in *Radio Fun*, c1947/48)
Arthur and Anthea Askey (in *Radio Fun*, 26 Mar 1949-?)
Ivor Poser - Put Your Question (in *TV Fun 1-24*, 19 Sep 1953-27 Feb 1954)

Waddles the Waiter (Comic Cuts, 1915). Art by Alexander Akerbladh

Jimmy Jewel and Ben Warriss (Radio Fun, 1948). Art by Alexander Akerbladh

The Rollicking Rambles of Reggie & Roger (Larks, 1927). Art by Alexander Akerbladh

'LUCK OF THE LEGION'



times during the ten odd years the strip ran. He was easy to get on with; he must have been pretty fed up with me though, because I deviated from his script when it suited me. Looking back on it I think I was rather inconsiderate to him, but the Eagle office seemed to approve. It was he who had the original ideas, and he had a flair for names: Luck, Trenet, and later Bimberg, which at the time I thought sounded Nordic rather than Italian but it went well.

What I found was that he, being very unpractical (couldn't drive his car and, when he did, ran into something), could never think of ingenious ways to get his heroes out of danger spots he got them into. So you could say that I did introduce quite a few ideas myself, but not those shaping the story from the outset. Neither did I do much research. There was no TV in those days, and only since Luck ended have there been so many books on the Legion. Seeing it all now, I often think what a pity I had so little access to proper references. In any case, I have never felt that factual accuracy was the main purpose of the strip; it was, for me, entertainment.

***WR**: 'Luck' developed into a three-man team; was this intentional? Bimberg's first appearance in the strip was very much a minor part; why was he selected for the humorous element?*

MA: After a couple of stories I found myself drawing a certain type of comic 'side-kick' legionnaire. Most strips, not just in Eagle, have someone like this. Eventually Geoffrey brought this character into the script, named him, gave him the old 'Mama Mia'. I used to invent ways (silly ones) whereby he ruined his new kepi at the start of each story (and interfere with Geoffrey's script in doing so).

***WR**: Why do you think 'Luck of the Legion' finished when it did?*

MA: Sad to say, the reason why 'Luck' ended was that Clifford Makins didn't like him at all and when he took over from Marcus the end was in sight. Makins thought that 'James', not Geoffrey Bond was the character to pursue...

Extracts from an interview with Martin Aitchison by William Rudling, from Eagle Times. Reprinted by permission of Martin Aitchison and William Rudling.

BRIGHTON COMIC MART
SATURDAY 1ST APRIL 1995
BRIGHTON CENTRE (seafront)
Adm 10am to 12 noon £1.50, 12 noon to 5pm £1
OVER 45 STANDS – specialists from every field.
BARGAINS, RARITIES, NEW RELEASES
& COLLECTORS ITEMS – BUY & SELL
★ COMICS ★ COMIC BOOKS ★ GRAPHIC NOVELS ★ TRADING CARDS ★ PHONE CARDS ★ AND ALL PARAPHENALIA CONNECTED WITH COMICS ★ PLUS 150 STALL RECORD & CD FAIR ★ . . . *only an April fool would miss it!*
Book now for the biggest event in the
SOUTH OF ENGLAND – Vinylman Enterprises
THE BRIGHTON COMIC MART
88 Graham Avenue, Patcham, Brighton BN1 8HD, UK, England.
TELEPHONE (01273) 553966
COMIC MART DATES FOR '95
Sat 1st April :· Sun 25th June :· Thurs 26th Oct :· Sun 11th Dec.

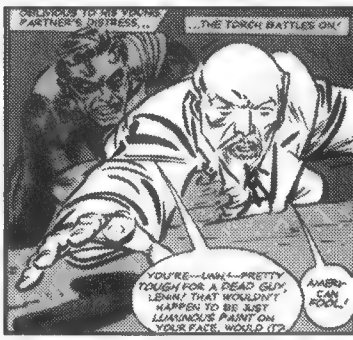
KRACKERS
COMICS & GAMES
AVALON HILL GAMES ★ CHAOSIUM ★ F.A.S.A. ★ I.C.E. ★ PALLADIUM ★ R. TALSORIAN ★ T.S.R. ★ WESTEND GAMES ★ WHITE WOLFE ★ WIZARDS OF THE COAST ★
ALSO MARVEL & DC COMICS ★
TRADING CARDS ★ SCI FI, HORROR &
CAR KITS ★ LEAD FIGURES ★ ANIME VIDEOS
RESERVATIONS AND
POSTAL SERVICE AVAILABLE.

5 Bath Place
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 4ER
Telephone:
(0823) 335 057

1-5 The Fore Sreet Centre
Fore Street
Exeter
Telephone:
(0392) 425 248

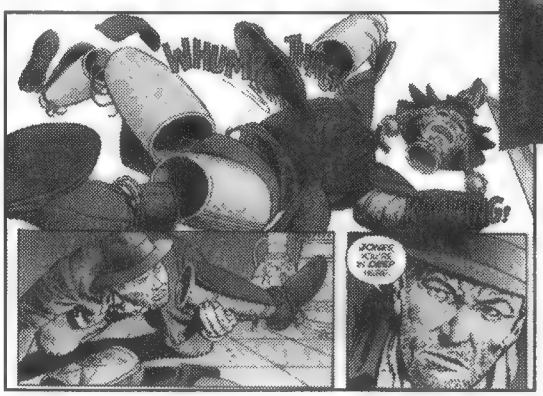
Richard Hill's REVIEWS

I have seen the future and it's nostalgia. When it's this hard growing up, it never hurts to retreat to the simplicity of days gone by. This can include the past from before we were born - or rather the Hollywood past that never truly existed. **The Rocketeer Adventure Magazine #3** (Dark Horse, $2.95) is a piece of nostalgia in itself - we were all five years younger the last time an issue came out. Ah...those were the days, eh?


...THE TORCH BATTLES ON!
YOU'RE—UHH!—PRETTY TOUGH FOR A DEAD GUY, LENNY! THAT WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO BE JUST LUMINOUS PAINT ON YOUR FACE, WOULD IT?
AMERI-CAN BOOK...

The story may pick up exactly where it left off, but creator Dave Stevens is older and wiser. Future instalments of *The Rocketeer* will rely more heavily on other writers and artists to craft the adventures. Perhaps Stevens now understands that if a story's worth telling, sometimes you just have to get on and tell it or risk having no-one left to listen.

So enjoy what might be the last issue of concentrated Stevens you might see for years. The leading characters are as pleasingly gee-whiz as ever, but are given depth in a grand melodrama of desire and death. And the illustrations take the story onto another plane, squeezing every bead of sweat out of the suspense.



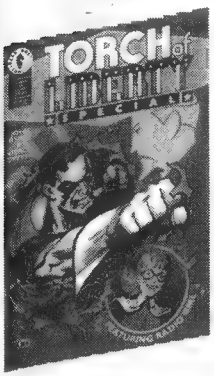
Perhaps the Rocketeer might bump into Indiana Jones on his travels - with the amount the two get around, it seems inevitable. In Indiana Jones And the Iron Phoenix #2 (Dark Horse, $2.50), Indy traverses continents in search of jewels with deadly powers over nature. As you do.

Many mini-series have an eye on their eventually being collected into a book, but never has one gone so far as *Iron Phoenix* in ignoring the conventions of a monthly book. No splash page - not even a recap for latecomers. The excerpt begins and ends mid-flow, with little sense of building up to a cliffhanger, a moment of high drama frozen in time and the reader's mind until the next month. No doubt the story works as one long unit - so publish it as such, and forget this half-hearted attempt at the serial.

Come forward now to the 1950s (or rather the fantasy '50s) and the **Torch of Liberty Special** (Dark Horse, $2.50). John Byrne's tale rattles through its plot at a hectic pace, dealing with symbols rather than people. He presents symbols of the genre and of the time - the kid sidekick, the communist collaborators, the 'can he escape? - tune in next week' presentation. The Torch is not a symbol of American values a one character states, but of the superhero himself. He's a faceless icon you can project your own ideals onto, and is changed not one bit by his experiences here. Byrne and Kieron Dwyer's romp is energetic and enjoyable, but it's difficult to see its point beyond its own existence - not that Special, in other words.

The Power of Shazam! #1 (DC,

$1.50) brings the past into the present, meanwhile, with the revival of C C Beck's classic hero Captain Marvel continuing from Jerry Ordway's hardback. Ordway takes the story on with the help of an art team that doesn't wander far from his immaculate style. The sophistication of the 1990s is missing from the characters, who still live their lives in ignorance of the greater evils of the world. It's in the telling of the tale that the class emerges, with the creative team quietly assembling the pieces you need to grasp the basics even if you're new to Marvel's home town. If you were to judge by appearances you might see little difference in *Shazam!* from the *Superman* books, but look further and you'll find a gentler book.

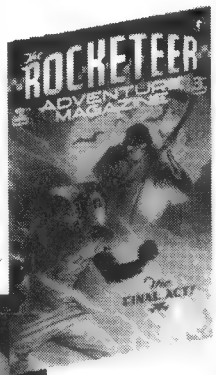


The past enters the present in a more typical form in **Brooklyn Dreams** ($4.95), an early effort from DC's new Paradox Press imprint. With publications styled like paperbacks, Paradox is obviously intended to court a different and perhaps more mainstream audience from the comic shop crowd - book readers rather than video game players and card collectors. *Dreams* is a journey through a man's memories, trying to capture the meandering way in which things come to you when you're trying to tell a story. *Dreams* is not story but anecdote. It deals intelligently with a theme the other comics here use as an unconscious subtext - the past that exists in our heads is not the same as the one that actually took place.

Perhaps it's because of its book format that *Dreams* is too literal at times, forgetting it's a comic and could be aiming at a more subtle combination of word and image. When the idea of an emotionally unstable person trying to cope with life is drawn as an elephant tip-toeing through a minefield, you get the idea - the captions could be doing something else apart from blindly repeating the concept.

Ghostdancing #1 (DC/Vertigo, $1.95) joins a wider attempt by society to restore a past that's been overwhelmed. The culture of the Native American has been all but wiped out, but is returning with a stronger sense of its place in the modern world. Jamie Delano is using the spirits of Indian folklore to explore themes he's continuing from his recent stint on *Animal Man* - Man's ongoing mismanagement of the planet. The connection between the ruination of the planet and the receding into legend of these living symbols is clear enough. What the tale lacks at present is a sense of dilemma and conflict to entice you into reading further.

The uniquely American clash of cultures is dealt with further in **Shaman's Tears #5** ($1.95), an issue that sees Mike Grell welcomed back to Image after leaving just recently.



Confused? Hey, this is comics. Grell tackles his themes very directly, in terms anyone can understand. But this is partially achieved through a roster of uninspiringly overfamiliar characters and dialogue. Real life has been overtaken by a TV programmes view of the world. Dialogue like 'And what is Mrs Ryan's little boy Daniel doing these days?' does a lot to remind you that you're reading something a person has made. A great story should feel as though it exists in a place beyond the ability of a person to create - a world of recollection and dream where tales are plucked from the sky to dwell in our humdrum lives for a while.

Review copies courtesy of Bristol's Forever People (Telephone 0117 926 5454). Prices are given in dollars; the sterling price may vary from shop to shop.

KNOW WHERE?
(where else ?)
Nowhere Comics
3 Kings Court, Bridge Street, Walsall,
West Midlands WS1 1QG
telephone
01922 643352

EASTER MEGA SALE
⅓ off all back issues (pre 1995).
100's of Comics at only 30p each.
ARCADIA COMICS
75 Oldham Road
Rochdale
(5 min's Motorway)
Tel: 01706 713770
12 Clarence Arcade
Stamford Street
Ashton under Lyne
OL6 7PT
Tel: 061 339 1816
Easter Weekend
Friday 14th, Saturday 15th,
Monday 17th April
10.00am–5pm Fri–Sat
10.30am–3.30pm Monday
Large X Men collection just arrived,
several other mixed collections
recently purchased, all at ⅓ off.

30th CENTURY COMICS

We have now moved to larger premises in the same shopping centre, and can offer an even wider selection of the latest imports (in every week), plus a much enlarged range of back issues of all genres of comics, from the Golden Age through the Silver Age, the 70s, 80s and right up to date, plus much more room for you to browse.

So, if your taste is for super-heroes, action/adventure, science fiction, TV/film related, humour, romance, Manga, war, western, funny animals, slice of life, alternative, horror, crime or just about any kind of comics you can imagine, we can help you. And this means whether you're after the latest hot issue or that obscure issue to finish off a run from the 60s, 70s or whatever.

And we don't just stock comics. Try us for magazines, trade paperbacks, hardbacks, graphic novels, 2000 AD, trading cards, posters and other merchandise and comic storage supplies – bags, boards and boxes.

We also provide an efficient, computerised standing order service for advance comics at the shop and by post, and of course a fast and friendly mail order service for back issues as well, so check us out if you keep missing those elusive issues!

30th Century -- the future of comic collecting all under one roof at...

Unit 5, Putney Market, (Upper Mall)
Putney Exchange Shopping Centre,
High Street Putney, London SW15 1TW
Tel: 0181 788 2052
Open: Mon-Sat 9:00-6:00
(Underground: District Line to Putney Bridge; BR: Waterloo to Putney)
(or at any major London Comic Mart)

DC, MARVEL, TIMELY, EC, QUALITY, FICTION HOUSE, MLJ, FAWCETT, AVON, ATLAS, ZIFF DAVIS, FOX, etc . . .

If you're looking for 1940s/50s titles, then contact Ken Harman on 0181 771 8756 or come and see me at any of the major London comic marts.

Large stocks of 40s/50s comics available from £2.50 upwards, all genres covered: *SUPERHERO, PRE-CODE & POST-CODE HORROR & CRIME, WESTERN, WAR, SF, GOOD GIRL ART, etc . . .*

Wants lists accepted – *and worked on!*
Always willng to buy/trade for similar items.

NEWSFLASH: NEW STOCK JUST ARRIVED –
300 plus new 40's–50's comics, DC, Fawcett, etc.
Please call for details.

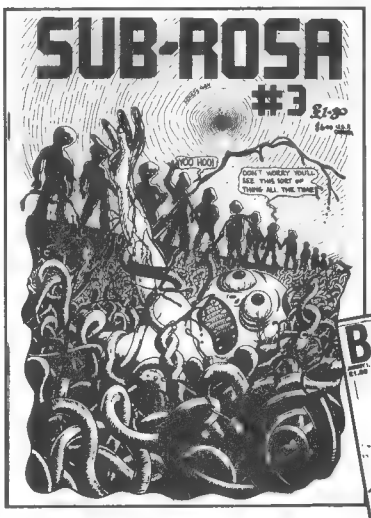
Also 100,000+ 60s-90s comics available – all publishers.
Let me know what you want, all enquiries answered.

KEN HARMAN
TEL: 0181 771 8756
BUYING ALL US/UK COMICS 1930'S, 40'S, 50'S, 60'S

Steve Cook's SMALL PRESS

No time for an introduction this month - so I'll jump straight into the **Squabbling Dandies** by Jonathan Edwards and Richard Holland. Printed on faux parchment paper; this period piece has been seen in part in *Deadline*. Fortunately, the creators have also decided to self publish it and a good thing too! Imagine the *Reservoir Dogs* set in Georgian times and you'll get the picture. Decadence is the name of the game and beneath the wigs and powdered faces of the times, we get to see all manner of grotesquerie. Humpty Dumpty, badgers, giant wigs and King George's brain cells turned into living gems all feature in this madcap comic, with a wonderfully distinctive art style. Send £1.00 plus an A4 SAE to Richard Holland, 7 Water Street, Mold, CH7 1 PQ.

Buy This Comic is back from Matt Dyer and although it's a bit thinner than the last issue, it's just as worth getting your hands on. Discover the secret identity of Grim Smith, Karl Marx on the rampage, another exciting Rude Horse strip and the continuation of a really good cyberpunk story 'The Dream' make this a really decent punk biased comic. £1.00 plus an A4 SAE to Matt Dyer, 106 Victoria Road, London, N22 4XF.



The most scarily warped and twisted comic of the moment is back with a vengeance. **Sub-Rosa #3** continues the Manufactured Memories storyline and features several short stories too. If you haven't read *Sub-Rosa* before, now's definitely the time to start! but make sure you don't read it in a darkened room on your own. Richard Argent's vision of the world is more warped than you can imagine. Lock this man up before it's too late! £1.80 will give you nightmares for a while from Richard Argent, 93 Gainsborough Drive, Westcliffe-On-Sea, Essex, SSO OSN.

You want cute? I'll give you cute...**Crayola Summer** is a part of Inner Psyche Productions who sent me a lovely pair of comics called angel and devil. Simplicity itself, these both feature a single picture, repeated through the comic as accompaniment to a short poem. May not sound like much, but these are incredibly beautiful pieces. IPP also offer a small catalogue of items ranging from home-made cassettes to books and

comics. A must have item. send £1.00 blank postal order for both comics together plus an A5 SAE to IPPHQ, 14 Old Hall Close, Wellington, Telford, TF1 2DJ.

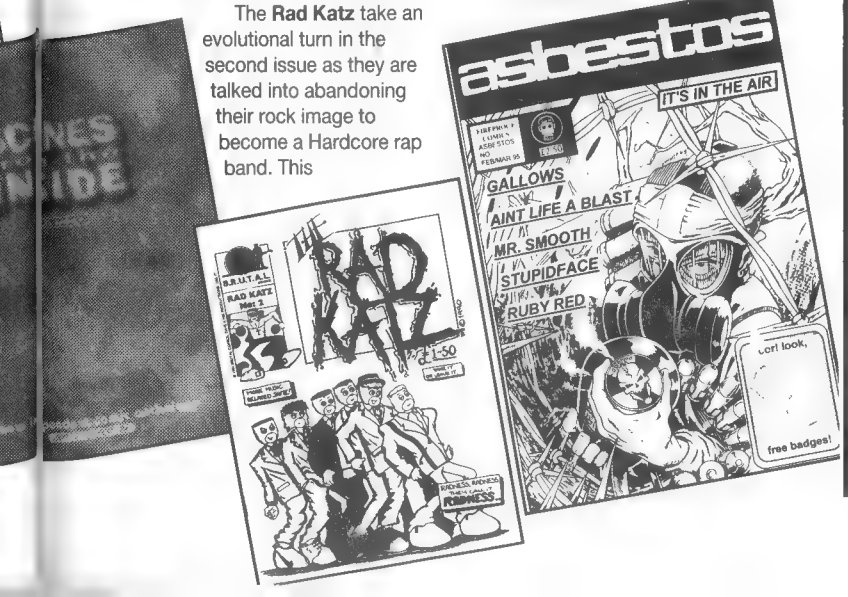
Peter Ashton has been a feature on the small press landscape for some time now. His latest project though is set

to raise him from a semi detached to a skyscraper - if it works that is! **Vicious** is a new comics discussion 'zine, dedicated to being a completely free forum for opinions as differing as may be. The first issue is looking good, though as might be expected, there's not much confrontation yet. The success of this mag will largely depend upon the contributors keeping up their interest and raising interesting points. What with the sad demise of *Battleground*, the timely (though unconnected) release of Vicious will also help fill a gap in the market as mainstream topics get as much coverage as the small press (if not more). However, this is of course a result of whose written for it, rather than an editorial policy (as there is none!). If you want to put in your two penn'orth or see what's up, send £1.50 to Peter Ashton, 161

Densborough Road, Eastliegh, S050 5NP.

The mean, teen, queer zine **Concerned Muthers** is up to its sixth issue thanks to the dedicated Sina and his contributors. With its usual and charming mix of comics, rants, cut-ups and scribbles it won't appeal to everyone, but I love it and plenty of other do too. The Secrets Of YO! Gay Superhero, Sina's ongoing Precious Things and plenty of opinion make this a great read. Send 50p and an A5SAE to Concerned Muthers, PO Box 385a, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7YJ.

The **Rad Katz** take an evolutional turn in the second issue as they are talked into abandoning their rock image to become a Hardcore rap band. This leads to internal difficulties and a split - what will happen next? This is a well thought out comic! with a strong art style. Initially I was slightly reserved about the fact it is an anthropomorphic comic ('funny animals' aren't my favourite style) but the story involved me enough to keep me reading to the end and I hope it will continue for a decent run. Send £1.50 plus A5 SAE to Brutal Comics, 11 Laurie House, Gaywood Street, London SE1 6HQ.



Asbestos is a wild new comic from a crew of ex-London Cartoon Centre students. It kicks serious butt! With such up and coming stars as Mark Stafford, Tom Carney (currently working for *2000AD*) and Paul Jones, plus a great schooldays strip from LCC honcho Steve Marchant, this is on the road to success. Though it's let down slightly by some of the more 'mainstream' strips, the general tone of *Asbestos* will appeal to those who liked *Deadline* in the good old days. Comes with a couple of cool badges too for £2.50, from LCC, Box 054, Canalot Studios, 222 Kensal Road, London, W10.

Yeeha, my favourite small press anthology is back with a new issue and it's better than ever. **Scenes From The Inside** stands out from the pack with its professional design and great quality strips. All your regular favourites are here, plus strips from Caspar Williams, Roger Langridge, Luke Walsh (looking more and more like Charles Burns!) and a mini book in the middle by Haggis, which is sure to blow your brains. If you haven't bought a copy of *Scenes* so far, I heartily recommend that you find out what you are missing - I don't know anyone who has regretted it so far. Aiming to keep to a quarterly schedule in this make or break year, get in now before it's everywhere. Send a well reasonable £2.75 for issue 4 to Box 63, 82 Coulston Street Bristol, BS1 5BB.

A quick plug for my **SPITE! Books** small press catalogue which is out now for an A5 SAE from 15b White Hart Lane, Wood Green, London N22 5SL, for over 100 small press comics and 'zines from one address.

THE LAST PICTURE SHOW

Starring . . .

★ *Colossal Range – Marvel, DC, Valiant, Image, Malibu, Dark Horse, Independents* ★ *Comics* ★ *Graphic Novels* ★ *Books* ★ *Magazines* ★ *Trading Cards* ★ *Sci-fi/Horror Models & Toys* ★ *Star Trek* ★ *Dr Who* ★ *Alien* ★ *Press Kits* ★ *Lobby Cards* ★ *Stills* ★ *Posters* ★ *T-Shirts* ★ *Post Cards* ★ *Manga* ★ *Anime* ★ *Animation Art* ★ *Soundtracks* ★ *Videos* ★ *Autographs* ★ *Movie and Rock 'n' Pop Memorabilia* ★

Also at:

NOW OPEN:
OVER THE EDGE
FIRST FLOOR, THE FORUM,
DEVONSHIRE STREET, SHEFFIELD
OPEN MON-SAT

SEND FOR MAIL ORDER CATALOGUE TO:

The Last Picture Show
40 The Lanes, The Oasis, Meadowhall Centre, Sheffield S9 1EP
Tel: 01142 728333/569604
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK TILL LATE

The Shadow, Doc Savage, The Avenger, The Phantom, Tarzan plus many more Pulp Heroes

together with

UKs LARGEST SELECTION OF COLLECTIBLE CRIME, SCIENCE FICTION, HORROR and TV/FILM RELATED PAPERBACKS

UK & US Editions. Fleming, Dick, Vance, Whittington, Howard, Bloch, Matheson, Brown etc, etc, plus Avengers, Uncle, Danger-man, Who, Andersen, etc, etc. Also sleaze and westerns. **Paperback, Pulp & Comic C ollector back issues (1–8) £2 each, Paperbacks, Pulps & Comics £3.95,** plus price guides, collectors, books & mags. For details of these and other related new publications send 2 by 19p stampts to:

ZARDOZ BOOKS
20 WHITECROFT, DILTON MARSH, WESTBURY, WILTS BA13 4DJ.
Tel or Fax (0373) 865371.

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF ADVERTISEMENTS

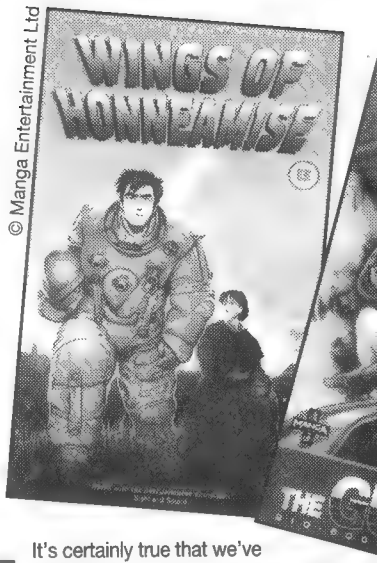
1. All advertisements are accepted subject to approval of the Publishers. Whilst every endeavour will be made to ensure advertisements appear in the issues requested, the Publishers accept no liability should the advertisement not appear.
2. Proofs will not be supplied unless specifically requested, nor will they be supplied following late copy.
3. Every care will be taken to ensure accuracy of insertion but the Publisher will not accept liability for errors or for loss or damage of original material.
4. The higher series rate becomes applicable in the event of an advertiser cancelling or shortening series bookings.
5. Photographs, artwork and film produced at the advertisers request will be charged for.
6. The media information contained herewith is subject to variation without written or verbal notification to any person/persons or business.
7. Accounts are strictly Nett, payable within 30 days from the date of invoice direct to the Publisher.

7a. We reserve the right to charge interest at 4% above Midland Bank base rate on legal action accounts.

8. Notification of any cancellation of an existing booking must be received in writing 6 weeks before publication.
9. The Publishers reserve the right to charge the full amount for any advertisements booked which have not been published owing to late cancellation or non-delivery of copy.
10. Previous copy will be repeated, if new copy is not supplied for series bookings.
11. To obtain best reproduction all mono or two colour artwork must be supplied with an 85 screen. The Publishers will not be responsible for inferior reproduction from artwork supplied with an incorrect screen.
12. Advertisements are accepted on the understanding that the advertiser ensures that advertisements do not contravene any Act of Parliament.
13. The Publishers reserve the right to refuse or omit any advertisment without giving any reason.
14. The placing of an order implies acceptance of these conditions
15. The submission of advertisements shall constitute an offer which shall be accepted by the Publishers subject to these terms. Any contract will be effected at the offices of the Publishers in Colchester.

STEVE HOLLAND VISITS MANGA ENTERTAINMENT AND IS SUBJECTED TO SOME MANGA MANIA (where have I heard that before?) BY BOSS ANDY FRAIN...

MANGA MANIA



© Manga Entertainment Ltd

The heart of Manga Entertainment is a busy office in the Hammersmith area of London; on the walls as you enter the door are plaques awarded for sales of their top videos, the telephone on the reception desk doesn't sit in its cradle for more than a few seconds between calls, copies of posters, time-codes and the Manga Club newsletter litter a table tucked around the corner. In one side office, Cefn Ridout is busy with *Manga Mania*, in another Dick Hansom waves a greeting, a phone tucked into his shoulder as searches his desk.

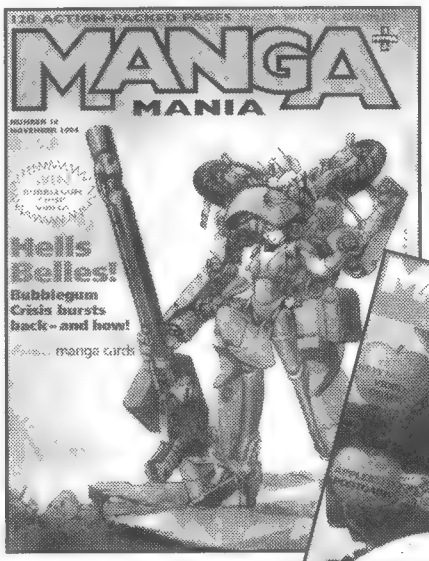
Upstairs, Andy Frain bowls into (Publicist) Mike Preece's office and sits down. As head honcho to all this breathless activity he's surprisingly relaxed; recently returned from Japan and not long off heading away again, it's a surprise to catch him in the office; nevertheless, he responds easily to enquiries as to how Manga are doing and their plans for the future.

In 1994, Manga Entertainment sold their millionth tape - not bad for a company only two years old; that success have given them enough clout, and cash, to begin production on what promises to be one of the hits of the 1990s: "*Ghost in the Shell* is being produced in Japan," reveals Frain. "The principal producer is Kodansha who have assembled what is without a doubt the best staff since *Akira,* a lot of the same creative staff who were on *Akira,* in fact. The film has a big budget, comparable to *Akira,* the three investors being Kodansha, Bandai Visuals and ourselves. In Japan they're looking for a theatrical premiere presentation at the back end of November. We'll see it over here either at the end of this year or early next."

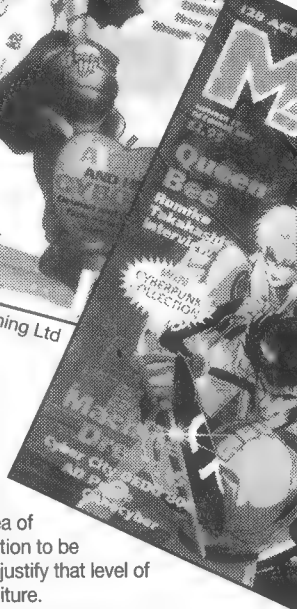
Masamune Shirow's spectacular cyberpunk graphic novel is about to be released in the USA by Dark Horse, and should appear over here from Manga Entertainment later this year; but if you've seen the Japanese original, you'll know there are some...questionable moments. So will the film be faithful to the original?

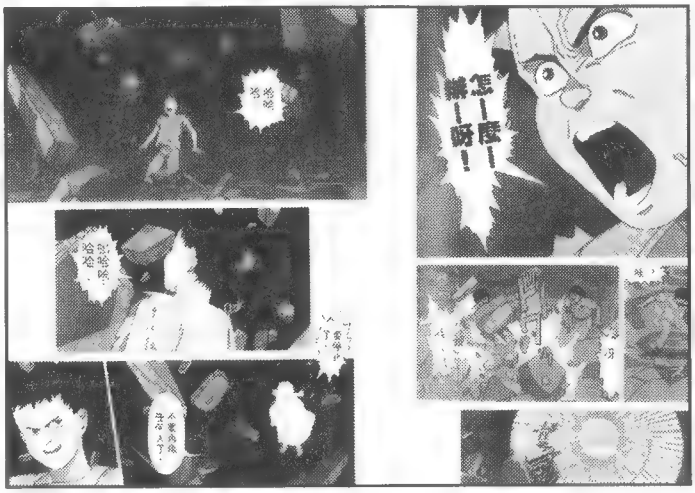
"Yes and no," replies Frain. "Shirow's involved in that sense, but it couldn't be really, because the graphic novel has quite a few episodes and stories. You could never adapt that into a seamless film, but obviously all the characters are there and some of the key main stories from the novel form the basis of the film." The scenes of virtual sex have also been toned down: "They'd only be cut by the censors here and in Japan too, but I don't think any of the spirit of the story is missing. It's really not important to furthering the story, so the girls on the boat...it's just a virtual reality experience, so its been replaced by another virtual reality experience that won't cause any problems. So the story itself has been maintained, just replacing that particular scene."

Ghost in the Shell fits in perfectly with Manga's cyberpunk style releases which recently included the popular *GenoCyber* and *AD Police*. "Yeah, definitely. Exactly where we see ourselves," agrees Frain. "We've been fairly or unfairly accused - that's for the accusers to say - of only wanting to focus and concentrate on a specific genre. That's true, but I don't think it's as narrowly defined as some people would have it. Certainly we're very much interested in more action/science fiction orientated films; we never set out to distribute any and every kind of *anime.* We felt a tremendous responsibility, given that we were pretty much the first commercial company to do anything with *anime* in the UK, but people automatically assumed that we would and should distribute everything. Well, that would be an utter impossibility to even try. That's not what we're about, so we're happy being in a field that we feel comfortable with and product which we enjoy. If somebody wants to do something else, that's fine."



© Manga Publishing Ltd





Ekira © 1988 Katsuhiro Otomo & Akira Committee

FLOODLANDS

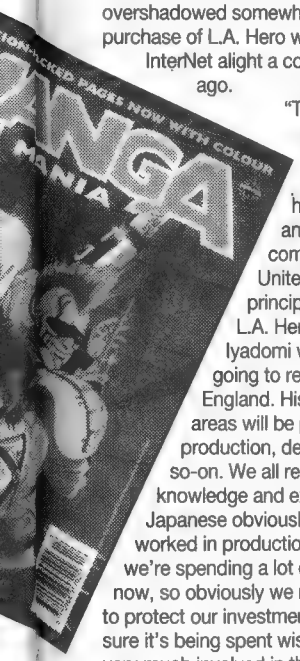
As well as *Ghost in the Shell*, Manga also have a co-production stake in another new film - *Cobra* - although their sights aren't set solely on expanding in Japan. "It was always our intention that if we could get involved in production we would, but providing that we could justify the expenditure. We've been accused of trying to monopolise the market, quote, unquote, by buying all European rights. It's certainly true that we've bought all European rights but we've paid accordingly. You don't get those things for free. We've set up a series of distributors - spent a long time doing that - with very much a singular idea behind it, which was that we wanted to become involved in production. I mean, if you're investing several million dollars in something, you need more than the UK to recoup your investment, so we needed that area of distribution to be able to justify that level of expenditure.

"On a separate side we've set up a computer animation studio in Staffordshire, and it's in its very early stages so I shouldn't really say too much, but we certainly will remain involved with the Japanese, and we hope that they will become involved in some of our projects, so there's a bit more two-way traffic.

"Currently we're producing a three-minute pilot for *Floodlands* which...we hear there's a couple of other companies trying to do the same

thing, but it could well be the first or one of the first 35mm theatrical feature films to be produced entirely on computer as opposed to a mixture of computer and live action or a mix of computer and traditionally drawn cel-animation. What's possible now is incredible - absolutely unbelievable. But we're really at the vanguard of new technology so it's really about learning day-by-day. *Ghost in the Shell* is incorporating quite a bit of computer animation - probably around 8 minutes of a 90 minute film. It's just very, very expensive, and we felt the best way of doing that would be to own our own studio."

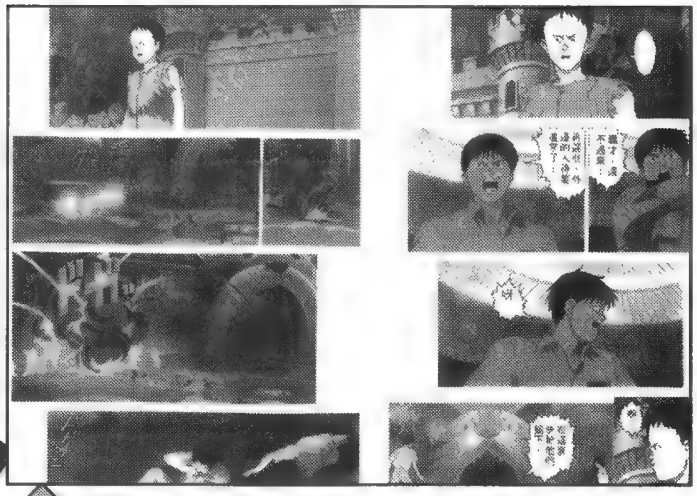
News of Manga's expansion into production and into distribution through Europe seems to have been overshadowed somewhat by their purchase of L.A. Hero which set the InterNet alight a couple of months ago.



"The principal reason for buying that company is to have a sales and marketing company in the United States. The principal person at L.A. Hero was Ken Iyadomi who is actually going to relocate to England. His principal areas will be production, co-production, development and so-on. We all respect Ken's knowledge and expertise - he's Japanese obviously, but has worked in production in Japan and we're spending a lot of money there now, so obviously we need someone to protect our investment and make sure it's being spent wisely. So Ken's very much involved in that area of the business. Some of us have a good feel for the sort of projects we'd like to be involved in, but Ken's exceptional in terms of his knowledge of the market, so he knows - he looks at the staff list on *Ghost in the Shell* and he knows all the people, he knows their abilities, and that's not something I would know. I may know some key people, but when it starts getting down to designers and so on Ken's very much in tune with that, so he's very much an asset to the company."

With changes both vast and (relatively) small taking place, including a move of office in the near future, I wonder (out loud) where Andy sees Manga Entertainment heading in 1995 and beyond?

"Well, we've pretty well established the European network and America, which is important for the reasons I've said. All that was essential to move onto our next step, which was investing large amounts of money in single productions. And one thing that I felt for quite some time about Japanese production was that there was nothing to touch *Akira*. That's not only down to the talents of Otomo, it's also the budget that went into it; in animation you're always limited by budget - if you don't have the budget it can only be done to a certain standard, and I really felt that there'd be an expansion curve with Japanese animation, that people would get very excited at the beginning but also that there was a chance of the boredom factor coming in if too much of the same quality stuff was coming out. People would understandably get turned off, and a lot of the Japanese that I talked to felt the same, even for their own market let alone the world market. I felt that the best way to expand it, and really have the potential to have a real hit...I mean, we've done well with *Akira* but in general terms you still couldn't call that a hit. Putting it in context, it doesn't fill a thimble-full of what Disney does or any other major studio, but I think that the potential is there to have what one would say is a commercial, mass-market hit, but only if you put the resources into it. The Japanese production companies can only put X amount in and they had to be reasonable conservative about that because of what they could retrieve from the Japanese and Asian market. But with the world market opening up now, we want to play a part in that, and we're putting our money where our mouth is. We're able to match their investment, and it is actually going into the production in order to elevate the quality of the production, so it's money that will be seen on the screen which, in turn, we hope will go on to expand the market.



That's probably one of the main things for 1995. The other is the studio which is very important to us, but that's more for 1996 and beyond.

"Lastly, the other important thing is on the comic publishing side: I personally have never been into comics in a big way but have become so to an extent through getting involved with the animation. It may sound rude, but certainly in the UK I felt that comic publishers...we'll there weren't many to start with and what was there was a little dismal. And yet I've met comic writers and artists who are clearly brilliant - there's a tremendous amount of talent in this country, most of it working for the Americans. Good luck to them. But like the film industry, or lack of it, in this country it would be nice to encourage a burgeoning home-grown talent and hopefully we'll start to do that. We like to invest in people." CW

MAVERICK
MAIL ORDER INTO THE 21ST CENTURY
漫 MANGA 画
MANGA • KISEKI • CRUSADER • ANIMANIA
ANIME PROJECTS • ANIME UK • WESTERN CONNECTION
ALL MANGA VIDEOS AND MERCHANDISE IN STOCK
PHONE OUR CREDIT CARD AND INFORMATION HOTLINE
01989 767 655
FREE CATALOGUE AVAILABLE
MAVERICK MAIL ORDER
PO BOX 7, ROSS ON WYE, HEREFORDSHIRE. HR9 7YX.
TEL : 01989 767655 FAX : 01989 768563

THE FRIAR STREET BOOKSHOP
A BLACKWELL BOOKSHOP
142-143 Friar Street, Reading RG1 1EX Tel: (0734) 573082. Fax: (0734) 509638
Reading's leading stockists of
Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Books, Comics,
Trading Cards, Manga Video, and Micro Machines.
ROBERT RANKIN
Will be signing copies of his new book
"THE MOST AMAZING MAN WHO EVER LIVED" £14.99
ON FRIDAY 7th APRIL – 1.00pm–2.00pm
IF YOU CAN'T BE THERE IN PERSON BE THERE IN SPIRIT
***CALL TO RESERVE YOUR COPY* NOW**

EXCELL XL COMICS
The next generation of comic creators are here in the shape of the following comics:
DURGE #1+2 £2.00 each inc. p&p
NINJED #1+2 £2.00 each inc. p&p
DARK YEAR #1 £2.00 inc. p&p
ALSO AVAILABLE: **DURGE #2 T-Shirt £8.00 inc. p&p.** *Cheques payable to:*
ADAM NARKIEWICZ
XL COMICS
FLAGSTAFF
BEAUMARIS
GWYNEDD LL58 8RR

ANYONE CAN BE A DEALER!
If you need
● EXTRA CASH ● ANOTHER INCOME
● A MONEYMAKING HOBBY
Or are you looking for
● WHOLESALERS ● BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
● FRANCHISES
MAKE SURE YOU BUY YOUR COPY OF
The Dealer
AVAILABLE FROM ALL GOOD NEWSAGENTS. YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS OUT ON THE FANTASTIC PROFIT MAKING IDEAS.
EVEN YOU COULD BE A
Dealer!

Multi

BOOKS

Barnes, John *Mother of Storms*. Millennium, £5.99. Substantial SF novel which crosses a bewildering number of genres; is it hard SF? Cyberpunk? Dystopian future? It has the soap opera-sized cast and throws around plenty of gadgets and should have something for everyone.

Burnell, Mark *Freak*. New English Library, £4.99. Debut horror novel about a bewildered City trader who discovers he has the power of healing and finds himself a media freak, hunted by a maniac.

Burnell, Mark *Glittering Savages*. Hodder & Stoughton, £16.99 (hc). A double murder committed in a hotel room offers no clues to the police; elsewhere Robert Stark becomes intrigued by the beautiful Rachel Cates, but finds himself romantically involved with someone not quite human.

Clark, Simon *Nailed By the Heart*. Hodder & Stoughton, £16.99 (hc). Debut horror novel about something creepy off the coast of Out-Butterwick, a sacred place for old religion stumbled into by Chris and Ruth Stainforth and their six-year-old son. Clark has appeared in *Year's Best Horror Stories* 4 times, and already has a collection of stories to his name.

Corran, Mary *Fate*. Millennium, £16.99 (hc). Magical fantasy with a debt to Andre Norton and Marion Zimmer Bradley. In Venture, on Asher's world, a group of women try to break free of their traditional second-class roles forced upon them by the invaders, the Grey Men.

Corran, Mary *Imperial Light*. Millenium, £4.99. Kyria, an abandoned orphan, is chosen for 'special worship' by a banned religion - chained to a cave wall to drown. A miracle and her willpower save her, and she sets out to bring down the priesthood by seeking out the fabled Lightbearer.

Douglas, John *The Late Show*. New English Library, £5.99. Bill Anders, a failed comedian and cinema owner, makes a pact with something evil which lives on blood and desperation. The book, obviously penned by a horror film fan, is very much a midnight movie of a book. Great if you like that sort of thing....I do.

Grant, Charles L. *Jackals*. New English Library, £5.99. Grant is always guaranteed to deliver a good story, and this one is no exception, bar the staccato writing style. Lots of. Short. Sentences. But good, nonetheless.

Grant, Charles L. *The Tea Party*. Raven, £4.99. The great house in the Winterrest Estate in the sleepy village of Deerfield is the venue for a Sunday afternoon tea party where the invitees seem to be on the menu.

Lofficier, Jean-Marc & Randy *Into the Twilight Zone: The Rod Serling Programme Guide*. Virgin, £5.99. The title says it all: a comprehensive guide to *The Twilight Zone* and *Rod Serling's Night Gallery* and a look at Serling's other work, plus interviews with some of the people involved in the making of the various series and movies.

Orman, Kate *Dr Who: Set Piece*. Dr. Who Books (Virgin), £4.99. Neatly ties up the last appearance of the Doctor's companion, Ace. It's very much her book, with the Doctor seriously injured and his colleagues scattered through history, Ace in ancient Egypt and Bernice in the 18th century.

Ouellette, Pierre *The Deus Machine*. New English Library, £5.99. If you're greatest fear is that computers are taking over the world, this is the book for you, a taut technofear thriller set in a future America beset by a paralysing depression. The US government set up DEUS, the ultimate computer...but its programme is subverted by a secret military cabal and begins to develop deadly bio-weapons.

Perry, Steve *Aliens* Omnibus: Earth Hive & Nightmare Asylum. Millennium, £5.99. Good value for money repackaging of two novels, both based on Dark Horse comic spin-offs from the movies, so no real surprises, but Perry fills in sketchy backgrounds well and simply offers two fast-paced and entertaining adventures.

Rigelsford, Adrian *The Doctors: 30 Years of Time Travel*. Boxtree, £14.99 (hc). Hefty hardcover history of Doctor Who telling the story of the show and the actors who played Who via extensive interviews with cast and crews. Particularly welcome is the concentration on the early years, although one annoying omission is an index - but that's a small quibble against an otherwise excellent book.

Sky, Kathleen *Star Trek Adventures: Death's Angel*. Titan, £4.50. A sensitive meeting between the Federation and Romulans in the Neutral Zone is threatened when one of the thirteen ambassadors aboard the Enterprise is killed. And then another dies, and a third believes he has seen the Angel of Death. Another volume in an enjoyable series of *Trek* spin-off novels.

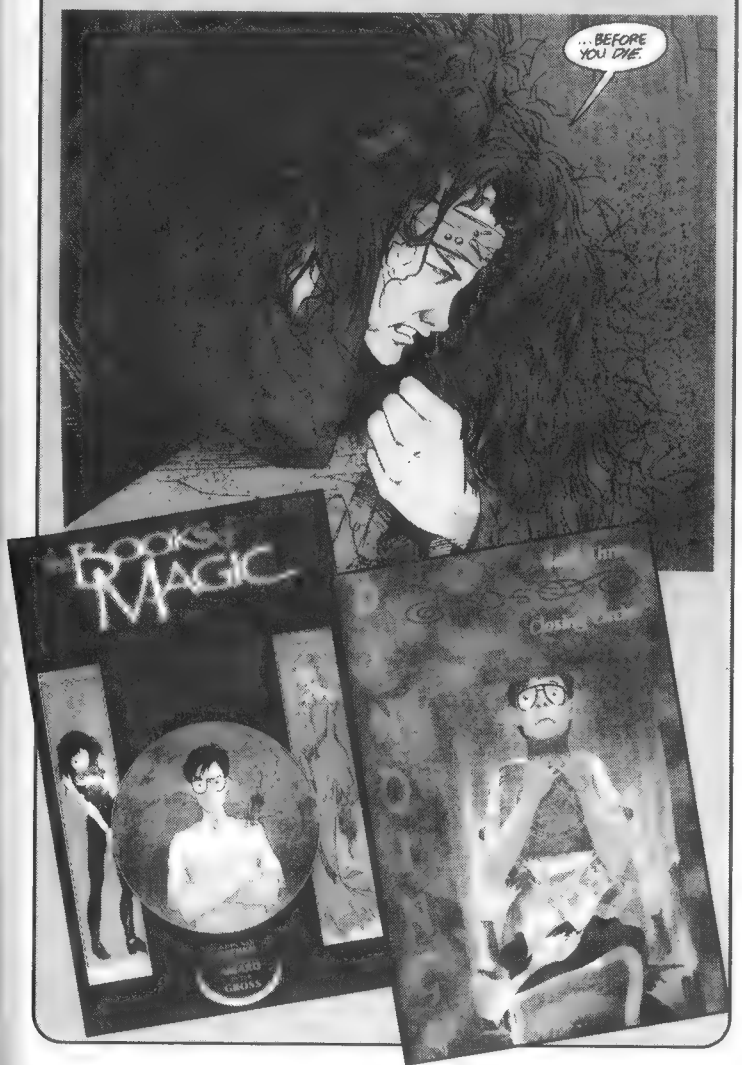
Media

Stone, David *Judge Dredd: Wetworks.* Virgin, £4.99. Stone revives the Culling Crew (from the *Judge Dredd Mega-Special*) for a furiously grotesque trail of murder and mayhem from the author of *Deathmasques* and *The Medusa Seed.* Stones best yet, the sick puppy.

Turtledove, Harry *World War: Tilting the Balance.* Hodder & Stoughton, £16.99 (hc). Follow-up to the highly praised *In the Balance* set in an alternate world where alien Lizards invaded during World War Two. It's a 'big' book with believable characters, real and created, one of the most inventive unrealities yet.

GRAPHIC NOVELS

The Books of Magic: Bindings, by John Ney Rieber, Gary Amaro & Peter Gross. Titan, £7.99. In the wake of Neil Gaiman's rewriting of the DC Magic Universe in the original *Books of Magic* series, it might have seemed impossible for another author to take over the character of Tim Hunter, whom Gaiman reintroduced in *The Children's Crusade*, particularly as Gaiman's strength is his capturing of youthful emotions and dialogue. John Ney Reiber may not have quite the same skill, but in his hands Tim Hunter struggles valiantly against confusion and the twin threats of the onset of acne and being dragged off into mystical realms. The first story-arc is beautifully drawn by Gary Amaro, with Peter Gross inking and occasionally penciling; Charles Vess' delightful covers are also reprinted here.



COMIC, CARD & SCI-FI FAIR

MILTON KEYNES

SUNDAY 16TH APRIL

Woughton Leisure Centre

Woughton Campus, Rainbow Drive,

(Off Chaffron Way H7), LEADENHALL, MILTON KEYNES

(Only 3 miles from Junction 14 of M1)

125 DEALER STALLS

Don't Miss it!!!!!!

Dealer tables from only £18

Opens 11am to 4pm

Adults £1 Child 50p

Future Dates : Sunday 27th August '95 & Sunday 5th November '95

ATTENTION ALL ADVERTISERS!

As of April 1995 British Telecom are changing most of the national STD codes. Without an up-to-date code on your advertisement you may incur problems. If you already know your new code please fill in your details below and send this ad to:

COMIC WORLD

The Advertising Dept., Media Sales, MSM, 2 East Hill, Colchester, Essex CO1 2QL.

Type of advert ☐ Display ☐ Classified

Name of advert.....

Your current Tel. No.....

Your new Tel. No.....

New No. effective from .....

Marvels, by Kurt Busiek & Alex Ross. Boxtree, £10.99. Stunning retelling of the history of the Marvel Universe through the eyes of newspaper photographer Phil Sheldon bringing the activities of superheroes - the *marvels* of the title - down to human level; Busiek weaves every major event from the coming of the Human Torch to the death of Gwen Stacy into the story as the heroes leave a trail of destruction along their path, raising and dashing human hopes with every turn. If this doesn't win the awards this year, the vote's rigged.

Superman: Kal, by Dave Gibbons & Jose Luis Garcia-Lopez. Titan, £3.99. An Elseworlds Superman novelette which deserves better than the grubby brown, leather-effect cover it's been given. The Garcia-Lopez vignette shrunk down into the corner would have made an outstanding, dramatic illustration and attracted more people into what is after examination a superbly drawn and richly coloured comic. On reading we're offered a *What If...* tale of Superman in the middle-ages which Gibbons tells remarkably well, bringing in variants of all the main characters (Loisse, Baron Luthor of Lexford, Jamie - Oll's son!), and turns in a neat little twist in the tail at the end which should leave you smiling.

FILMS

Todd Macfarlane and New Line Cinema will be bringing **Spawn** to the silver screen in 1996. A script is in development, although no writer or director has been announced (Frank Miller would be the obvious choice as scripter, but that's a shot in the dark). One group certainly involved, however, will be ILM, the computer effects company. An animated series is also on the cards from HBO.

Daredevil will almost certainly be the next Marvel movie in production now that Carlo Carlei has been signed on to co-write (with Chris Columbus) and direct. Carlei was the director of *Flight of the Innocent* and the adaptation of James Herbert's **Fluke** which has a March release in the USA. Columbus, who was originally mooted to direct, will also produce along with Tony Ludwig and Ben Myron; Stan Lee and Avi Arad are Executive Producers...It looks like 20th Century Fox's **X-Men** will join **Spider-Man** on the roster for 1996 release. Written by Andrew Kevin Walker, the film is being co-produced by Richard & Lauren Shuler-Donner, Joel Simon and William S. Todman, Jr.

Get ready for a science fiction boom in the wake of *Stargate* and *Generations* both passing $70m and in the run-up to *Star Wars:* the *Stargate* team of Roland Emmerich and Dean Devlin have scripted Independence Day, an alien invasion story, with 20th Century Fox who have offered aggregate fees of $7.5m. It joins an A-grade list of SF movies already starting to crowd the schedules, including **Mars Attacks** by Tim Burton, **Starship Troopers** by Paul Verhoeven, **Deep Impact** by Steven Spielberg, **AI** by Stanley Kubrick, **Planet of the Apes** with Arnie, **Stranger in a Strange Land** with Tom Hanks...

Talking of George Lucas, it's rumoured that he may sell off part or all of his ILM effects empire to finance the making of the next **Star Wars** trilogy himself. Founded on $10m of Lucas' money, ILM is now estimated to be worth $350m.

The Keanu Reeves actioner based on William Gibson's **Johnny Mnemonic** was pushed back from January release to summer, presumably because Reeves is so bankable these days...he'll pick up $7m for **Dead Drop** to be directed by Andy Davis...

Tony *(True Romance)* and Ridley *(Alien, Bladerunner)* Scott head up the consortium that acquired Shepperton Studios for £12m from Lee International in January. The consortium, which also includes Candover Partners, Shepperton management, and brokers Intermedia/Filmequities. The group is seeking £10m to upgrade facilities. Meanwhile, it looks like 20th Century Fox and Sega Games are to join forces to relaunch the mothballed Elstree Studios. Ridley's **White Squall** goes into production on March 27.

Drew Barrymore will co-star in **Boys on the Side** following her role in **Batman Forever**; it's being described as the "randiest all-girl road trip since *Thelma and Louise*"...John Woo will now direct **Broken Arrow** from a script by Graham Yost. John Travolta and Christian Slater are in talks to star...

The Mask has a $120m domestic box office after some 30 weeks of release. Other comic related films still pulling in the punters: **Richie Rich** at $35.9 (9 weeks), **Tales From the Crypt: Demon Knight** at $19.5m (5 weeks). **TimeCop** has just about run out of steam at $44.4m and a world-wide gross of $70.9. By the way, Skyvision Entertainment have picked up the remake rights to another Van Damme action movie, **Universal Soldier,** which will re-appear as a 22-episode TV series, without Van Damme or Dolph Lundgren. Skyvision were behind the popular **RoboCop** TV series. The next comic book related release in the USA will probably be **Fist of the North Star.** The next Crypt Keeper production (after Demon Knight above) is **Dead Easy,** which began filming in L.A. on February 9.

In France, Claud Berri's Renn Productions are now unlikely to begin production on **Asterix,** starring Daniel Auteuil and Gerard Depardieu (as Obelix) until mid-1996. Renn, however, are lining up **Tintin** in its place, to be directed by Alain *(La Cite de la Peur)* Berberian.

And some more of the usual end-of-year statistics: **Four Weddings and a Funeral** was 1994's most profitable movie returning 4,416% against its costs ($5.5m). **The Mask** returned 1,010% against $21m costs. The stinker of the year was **Being Human** which returned only 13% of its costs world-wide.

Four Weddings had only two nominations for Oscars (best picture and best screenplay); top contenders are **Forrest Gump**, **Pulp Fiction** and **The Lion King** in various catagories. The only comic-related nomination is **The Mask** for Best Visual Effects (up against **True Lies** and *Gump*). However, Jim Carrey has been nominated for a Golden Raspberry Award as Worst New Star...

VIDEO

Out now is **The Mask** which we probably don't need to recommend again, unless you've been on another planet for the past ten months. Other blockbuster March releases are **Clear and Present Danger,** with Harrison Ford, and **Speed** (reviewed last month). Worth a look are **Wyatt Earp** if you have a long, rainy afternoon to kill, and **Shopping,** Paul Anderson's ram-raid romp with the delectable Sadie Frost.

On retail, the Oscar winning **Philadelphia** is released, with **Short Cuts, In the Name of the Father, Tom & Viv** and **Joy Luck Club** also out.

Blown Away (1994). *Dir* Stephen Hopkins. (tick, tick, tick) Jeff Bridges co-stars as Jimmy Dove, Boston bomb squad expert, with Tommy Lee Jones as Ryan Gaerity, bomb-maker extraordinaire. Add to the cocktail Jimmy's unhealthy and well-hidden past, Ryan's explosive escape from jail and arrival in Boston. Some of the camerawork is ingenious and the plot is...well, thin, actually. But fight your way through the diabolical Irish accents and you've a film that zips along relentlessly, ignore what Hopkins puts poor Tommy Lee through to build 'character' and you've a film that will hold you to the

very end...(times up!). *116m. Warner VO54807. Cert 15.*

True Lies (1994). *Dir* James Cameron. Flick back to our interview with Arnie last November for some of the back story, but really, this was about the best action movie of 1994, driven by a story (based on the French movie *La Totale*) rather than effects, although it has those by the bucket load. It's also a romantic comedy since Harry Trasker (Arnold Schwarzenegger) hasn't told wife Helen (Jamie Lee Curtis) he's an agent for the government-sanctioned Omega Section. The Crimson Jihad, led by Art Malik, have hold of 4 nuclear warheads, Helen seems to having an affair, and Harry isn't sure who to go after first. Arnie out-Bonds Bond in the opening sequences, out-Rambos Rambo in the firefights and obviously enjoys every second of the movie. You will too, even on the small screen. Highly recommended. *135m. Universal VHA1807. Cert 15.*

ANIME

Remember Animania? They produced *The Guy: Awakening of the Devil* back in 1994, and then...nothing. Animania's boss, Chris Smith, is now heading up East2West Video which will be launch with two videos in April, and a further eight titles by the end of 1995. "Guy sold about 12 to 13,000 copies, which has allowed me to set up East2West," Chris told us. "I've been doing some production work, which has kept me quiet." The East to West label will also be used for live action Hong Kong movies.

Western Connection releases for March are **Salamander Vol 3, Ushio & Tora Vol 3, Lupin III: Gold of Babylon and Slow Step.**

Three of them won't need introducing, but the latter is a hilarious schoolgirl romance about a girl who has to pretend to be two girls in order to date two guys.

Japan's top grossing movie for 1994 was **Ponpoco** with a total gross of Y2.6bn ($26.3m), an animated movie from an idea by Hayao Miyazaki and produced by Studio Ghibli and Toho about the suffocation of racoon dogs by urbanisation. It beat **Godzilla vs Mechagodzilla** by some $7.5m.

The Guyver Data 12: Reactivation (1992). *Dir* Masahiro Otani, Naoto Hashimoto. The final chapter begins with Sho still unable to activate the Guyver unit. Attacked by Zoanoids, he and Myzuki are saved by Aptom the Lost Unit leader. But he's only saving them for himself and ***spoiler warning*** regains the power at the last minute by forgiving himself from killing his own father. The very ending leaves the series open for sequels - the *manga* continues far beyond this point - which means there's no real conclusion to the series, a little disappointing after a 12-chapter trek. *25m. Manga Video MANV 1059. Cert 15.*

Ninja Scroll (1993). *Dir* Yoshiaki Kawajiri. Manga Video move on from cyber futures to feudal Japan, in this tale of traditional honour vs. scary monsters. Jubei, a mercenary ninja and most nonchalant eater of rice cakes in battle, becomes embroiled in a plot to overthrow the Japanese government, when he finds that an old enemy, believed to be dead, has somehow come back to life. Soon Jubei is not only battling for his life against demonic nasties, but also for his macho image as he starts to fall in love with fellow female ninja Kageru, who (wait for it) can poison men by making love to them. Actually this is quite a nicely rendered anime, quite well dubbed, and the plot is no more proposterous than any of those Hong Kong-fu epics, but it would have been better served without the unnecessary gore and gratuitous sex. *94m. Manga MANV 1070. Cert 18.*

Macross Plus: Part 1 (1993). *Dir*

Shinichirou Watanabe. A new chapter of the Macross saga begins in 2040 AD, this time on the colonial planet Eden. Isamu Dyson, a maverick jet fighter, is sent to Eden as test pilot for the Super Nova transformer ship, developed to counteract alien attacks. But tensions mount as he runs into two people from his past; his ex-girlfriend Myung, now the producer for a computer generated idol singer, and his old rival Guld, who is the test pilot for a competing space ship - one that is controlled by pure thought. A well written, absorbing space opera, with beautiful cel and computer animation, that should appeal to both Macross fans and those yet to come across it. *45m. Manga MANV 1072. Cert PG.*

The Legend of the Four Kings: Chapters 3 & 4 (1991). *Dir* Hidemi Kubo, Yoshihiro Yamaguchi. Continuing the saga of the Wierdo - sorry, Ryudo brothers, who have now been made aware of their heritage that already bestows super human powers on them, and will lead to their transformations into dragons. Unfortunately their old adversary Gozen is still after them, even to the extent of framing them for murder, in the hopes they can replenish his own dragon powers, and another threat is making itself felt in the form of the mysterious Lady L. A decent enough story, albeit with rather bland animation, and the female lead's continual explanatory voiceover is getting rather wearing. *92m. Manga MANV 1071. Cert 15.*

ANIMATION

Fans of Disney's **Fantasia** will have to wait until 1998 before the revamped movie is released, although production began in 1993. Five new segments are being animated, including an abstract piece based around Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, an adaptation of Hans Christien Anderson's 'The Steadfast Toy Soldier' to music by Shostakovitch, and Donald Duck as Noah's assistant set to 'Pomp and Circumstance'. Four old segments remain, including the dancing hippos and 'The Sorcerer's Apprentice'. Disney is planning a direct-to-video sequel to **The Lion King** (for 1997) and a second sequel to **Aladdin.** The first, **The Return to Jafar,** has sold 8 million copies in the USA alone. An animated TV series based on *The Lion King* will debut in the USA this autumn.

BMG Video International, based in London, are putting a budget of £7-10m into producing animated movies and TV specials. The first will be an adaptation of Sergei Prokofiev's **Peter and the Wolf,** a 60-minute film which will have a limited theatrical release on the Saturday morning cinema circuit, and will debut on ABC Networks in the USA (it is being co-produced with the American outfit IF/X). The film will 'star' Kirstie Allie, Lloyd Bridges and Ros Mallinger as voice actors.

The Maxx animated series which is being produced for MTV has been delayed, but should show this month.

The animated *Asterix the Gaul* has been picked up by Labyrinth Video, who had a major success in 1994 with the *Police Stop video*. The first two titles, *Asterix and the Big Fight* and *Asterix in Britain,* are due for release on March 20.

TELEVISION

Teri Hatcher, star of **Lois and Clark: The New Adventures of Superman,** the second season of which began screening on February 25, is the netsurfers' favourite image: in a month, over 7,000 downloaded pictures of Teri from America Online.

EVENTS

MARTS

18 Mar **Manchester**. Sachas Hotel, Tibb Street, Picadilly.
18-19 Mar **GLASGOW COMIC ART CONVENTION**. Clyde Hall, Clyde Street, G2. Special Guest: Mike Allred. Entrance fees: 1 day: £7.50, both days: £10.00. Deadline for advance bookings: March 3. Further information: SAE to Rusty Staples, PO Box 146, Glasgow G1 5RN.
19 Mar Liverpool, Gladstone Hotel, Lord Nelson Street.
25 Mar London. Westminster Central Hall, Storey's Gate, SW1.
25 Mar Newcastle. University of Northumbria, Students' Union Ballroon, Sandyford Road.
1 Apr Brighton. Brighton Centre, Kings Road (seafront).
1 Apr Nottingham. Victoria Leisure Centre, Gedling Street.
2 Apr Cheshunt. Grundy Park Leisure Centre, Windmill Lane.
8 Apr Liverpool. Bluecoat Concert Hall, School Lane.
8 Apr Sheffield. Main Hall, Sheffield Hallam University, Howard Street.
9 Apr Leicester. YMCA, Granby Street.
9 Apr London. Camden Centre, Bidborough Street, WC1. Card Mart.
15 Apr Cardiff. The Angel Hotel, Westgate Street.
16 Apr Basildon. Sports Centre, Nethermayne. Special Guest: Jon Pertwee.
16 Apr Milton Keynes. Woughton Leisure Centre, Woughton Campus, Rainbow Drive, Leadenhall.
22 Apr Coventry. University Student Union Building, Priory Street.
22 Apr Leeds. Metropolitan University, Brunswick Hall, Merrion Way.
22 Apr London. Central Club Hotel, 16-22 Great Russell Street, WC1.
23 Apr London. Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way, WC1.
29 Apr Birmingham. Carrs Lane Church Centre.
30 Apr Stevenage. Leisure Centre, Lytton Way.

Multi Media was compiled by Neil Cooper, Steve Holland, Melissa Hyland, Dave McLoughlin and Pete Taylor.

Harlan Ellison

MEMORABILIA '95

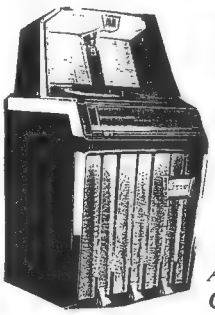
Pop Culture Spectacular

Europe's largest Pop Culture event, with top Dealers from U.K. & the Continent, as well as representation from major Fan Clubs and 40's, 50's 60's & 70's Ephemera Collectors

BIRMINGHAM - THE N.E.C.

6th & 7th MAY '95

Americana
Decor - Magazines
Street Fashions
Cult Hero's
40's / 50's Kitsch
60's Psychedelia
70's Glam / Punk
Advertising Ephemera
Jukeboxes, Slots, Radios
& Much Much More!!!



10am to 5pm
Adults £3, Concessions £2

This event features several hundred dealer and display stalls of the very best collectable items from the 1950's to the present day. Buy, sell and trade with Europe's top dealers & collectors. Free valuations from the experts. Many rare items on display. Dealer stalls from only £30 : Stall enquiries call 01462 - 683965 or 0860 - 683965(Mobile), or send a SAE for Dealer Info. pack t Made in Heaven, 216 Kristiansand Way, Letchworth, Herts, SG6 1TU

Also, Pop Memorabilia, Film & TV Memorabili Comics, Science Fiction & Character related ite

MEMORABILIA '95

ROADSHOW & FAIRS

Scotland's largest ever Memorabilia event, for Collectables relating to Pop Culture, Sporting Ephemera, Comics, Science Fiction, TV / Film & Pop Memorabilia

GLASGOW - City Halls

Saturday 27th May'95

10am to 5pm
Adults : £2.50, Concessions £1.50

This event features several hundred dealer and display stalls of the very best collectable items from the 1950's to the present day. Buy, sell and trade with the Country's top dealers & collectors. Free valuations from the experts. Many rare items & attractions on display. Stall enquiries call 01462 - 683965 or 0860 - 683965(Mobile), or send a SAE for a Dealer Info. pack to : Made in Heaven, 216 Kristiansand Way, Letchworth, Herts, SG6 1TU

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 39

numbers have jumped between ordering the special and issue number one, which is the first indication that the book has a life. So we're looking to see if we can keep it going. It's our intention that this book will be the absolute cutting edge, and people will look at it and say 'We should be doing this kind of thing too,' and they'll kill off forty of their superhero titles and put in three anthology titles, which is, of course, a great dream, but probably not very accurate or realistic." A dream worthy of the Dream Corridor...

"Yeah. But if you can get a comic like this, which is really a *rara avis* in the days of muscle-bound idiots, into the bloodstream of the mainstream then you've got a chance maybe of reversing the trend in some small way - and I don't want this to sound as if we're trying to be...not so much Zorro as sharing the wealth, but we're hoping that in some small way the nobility of what is being done with this comic, the risks that are being taken with this comic will not fall on arid ground. The audience will be so entertained by reading it - I mean, it's not like reading the *Encyclopedia Brittanica*, we're not requiring anybody to suffer some terrible documentary and saying 'Well, it's good for you to see this instead of watching *Mighty Morphin' Power Rangers*.' It's fun to read this comic, it's interesting, it's entertaining, but at the same time it lives up to the true meaning of entertainment in the sense of the Greek meaning of the word, which is to educate. People dismiss things by saying 'It's only entertainment,' but to me Kafka is entertainment, and if you start to exclude those things and start to justify bad storytelling and bad art, bad drawing in the name of 'Well, it doesn't have to be good, because it's just entertainment,' you debase the medium in which you work. And I love comics, and I think comics are just as honourable to work in as any other medium. And I've worked in 'em all!

"I suppose, the bottom line: I'm sixty years old, I've done 62 books, 1700 stories, essays, articles, I've won all kinds of awards, and I suppose I could kind of lie back and not get involved in something like this, but...as much as I dislike computers - I still use a manual typewriter - I wrote a computer game last year which will be coming out this Spring based on 'I Have No Mouth And I Must Scream', because I haven't done it and I wanted to try doing it, and I think an artists should try to work in all mediums and being able to work in comics with this kind of freedom and with this special kind of dream, is truly a kind of pinnacle - it's not the noblest thing I've ever done, it's not the greatest thing I've ever done or the thing that will vie most for posterity, but if somebody asked me to name the five or six greatest joys of my life I would probably put *Dream Corridor* right in there. I'm a kid who was raised with comics, I've always been a comics kid, I never lost that - I never went through any phase of saying 'Oh, I'm too old for that,' even when I didn't have any comics any more, or when I was living in New York and just married for the first time, you know, when you're trying to be an adult - even then, there were comics. And now, now it comes full circle, and I think, as I said in *Dream*

WIN

SIGNED COPIES OF HARLAN ELLISON'S DREAM CORRIDOR

All you have to do is answer one not so simple question:

Who was the female guest star in Ellison's award-winning Star Trek episode?

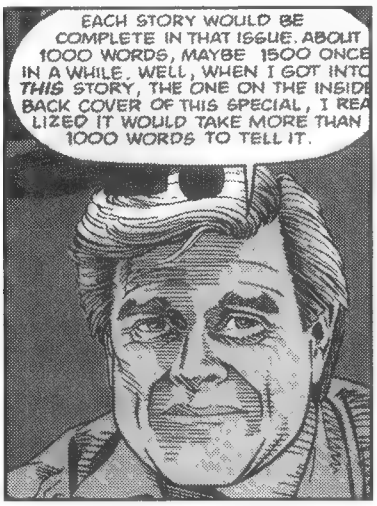
Send your answers on a postcard to Dream Corridor Competition, Comic World, Castle House, 97 High Street, Colchester CO1 1TH.

Get your answers in before Friday April 14. Usual rules apply.

Corridor, that is the truest definition of what it is like to be a successful person: to achieve in adult terms the dreams you had when you were a kid.

"I tell you, every time I write the interstitial pages and they're sent off to Eric Shanower, and they come back, I just sit there and I grin like a goddamned idiot. It's wonderful to look at them because I dream these things up - I'll sit there and I'll think 'OK, we're in the dream corridor, and he's walking down the hall and all of a sudden, I dunno...he has to clean the toilets, or what's in this closet over here.'

"And in the interstitial pages I talk about things you never hear people talk about in comicbooks. I talk about


EACH STORY WOULD BE COMPLETE IN THAT ISSUE. ABOUT 1000 WORDS, MAYBE 1500 ONCE IN A WHILE. WELL, WHEN I GOT INTO THIS STORY, THE ONE ON THE INSIDE BACK COVER OF THIS SPECIAL, I REALIZED IT WOULD TAKE MORE THAN 1000 WORDS TO TELL IT.

my father dying and going away, and me being sad that I never got to know him very well, and that ties in with my story in the back of the book, the one that begins in the *Special* and ends in number on. 'Midnight in the Sunken Cathedral', is a major story. It's 4,400 words in total, and I think it's a very pivotal story for me because it culminates something that I've been writing about, that's been a theme in my work from the very first, that goes back to the death of my father in 1949 when I was 14. He was a wonderful man but I was a rambunctious kid so I wasn't paying attention to how wonderful my father was and all of a sudden he was taken from me, and I never got to spend the time with him that I longed for. And its influenced me all through my formative years and now as an adult, and I didn't realise quite how seriously it had affected me until I ran across this quote in William Falkner somewhere years ago in an essay, and he said, 'Whatever it is a writer is writing about, it doesn't matter what he's writing about, if it's a man he's writing about is the search for his father,' and my mind just exploded. It opened like a flower. It was a true Epiphany. I realised that, Yes, though I had not even cried very much when my father died because I was so numbed by the experience, that in fact all these years and in many, many, many stories, like 'Jefty is Five', and 'One Life Furnished in Early Poverty', and many other stories, what the hidden message was, was the search for my father. And so, finally, I have written the final story on that kind of theme in 'Midnight in the Sunken Cathedral'. It's in two parts around the two covers, the Stephen Hickman cover on the *Special* and the Michael Whelen cover on issue one, but when you have both parts of that story and you have read it you will have heard the last - as far as I can tell - from me about me looking for my father."

Isn't it frightening to have identified the thing that has driven you to write, and to be able to close it off? Isn't that worrying?

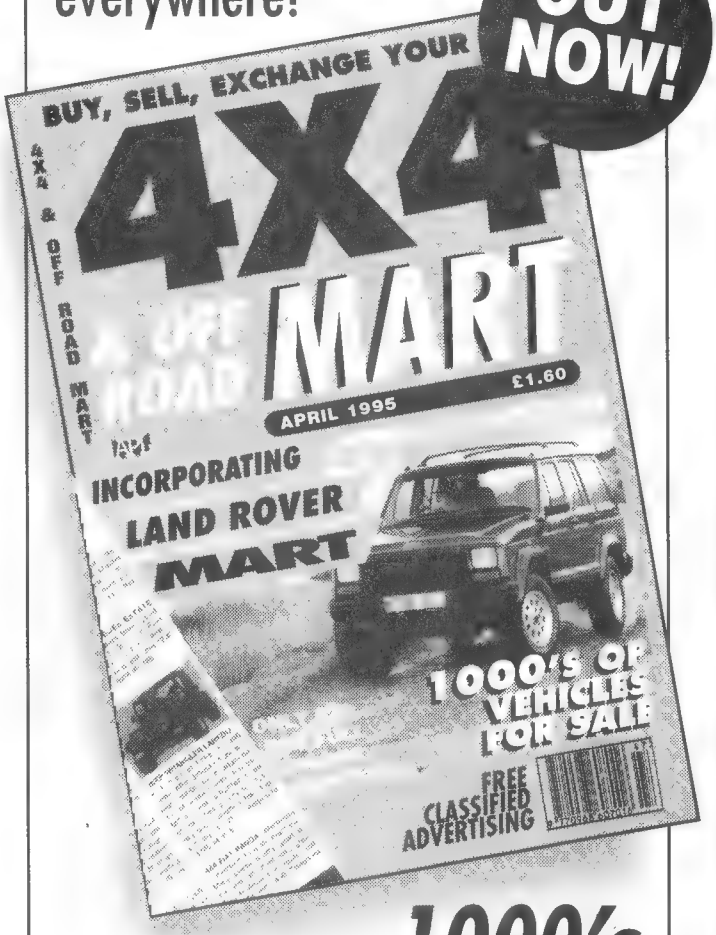
"No, it doesn't worry me, because just because I can identify it, doesn't mean the influence it has had on me will not continue to enrich my work. But you have to make the definitive statement at some point. You may make variations on it later, but you have to at some point say exactly what you mean and that's this story. So in this way, this is a major and important story in my *oeuvre*.

"The *Special* has just come out. It has gotten three actual reviews so far, all three of which have been absolutely stunning in their praise, and I'm enormously pleased about that, because it's not just my work - yes it's my dream, and my comic, and it's in my world, it comes out of my visceral material - but there are an enormous number of people who have worked their asses off on this book. Bob Schreck, as the editor of the book, has literally put himself into hospital working on this book. Mike Richardson at Dark Horse who took the chance on this kind of a book in a market that is really going crazy every day, and Diana Schutz who is the editor in chief over there who's shepherded us and kept us from harm, and Lou Bank of marketing who has really gone out of his way to allow me to do all of these crazy things to promote it and get it in front of people's eyes, not to mention every one of the artists and adapters who seem to be saying 'This is an opportunity for me to be showcased, to show off my very best work.' I take that as a great compliment, and I want the book to succeed not just for me and my aggrandisement or for commercial reasons, but because the people who are working in it have that sense of community and that sense of belonging to something that is worthwhile. It is a project that enriches and ennobles everybody who goes near it, so I'm anxious to see it succeed, and why, I suppose, if anybody calls me and says 'Can we do an interview?' I say 'Sure'."

And why an hour and a half later, my ten-minute interviewette has become a monster consuming time and space, and Harlan offers a helpful, "You could always add another page," which is the curse of all editors.

So I did. CW

STEVE HOLLAND has just finished a 17,000 word history of Lion, and is desperately trying to clear the decks so he can start on his next book which he was supposed to start in February but didn't. He isn't looking forward to his next phone bill.

NEW! NEW! NEW!
4X4 & OFF ROAD MART
The NEW monthly magazine for all 4X4 enthusiasts everywhere!
OUT NOW!


1000's of vehicles for sale
BUY, SELL, EXCHANGE
ONLY £1.60
Available from all good newsagents
BUY IT TODAY!

SHOWMASTERS Presents

COMIC FILM & SCI-FI MART

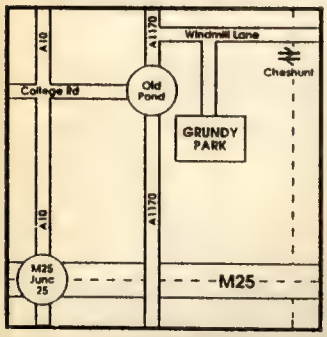
Sunday 2nd April

GIANT FILM, COMIC AND SCI-FI COLLECTOR'S FAIR

Grundy Park Leisure Centre

Windmill Lane, Cheshunt,

Over 200 stalls of collectables all under on roof. Ideal for buying, selling or trading. There will be posters, toys, stills, autographs, promotional items, models, etc... and maybe even a few props for sale. There will be regular displays of props and costumes from the likes of Red Dwarf, Star Wars and Aliens. Also special guest appearances by stars from film and tv. Free parking, hot and cold food and drink available, and also a bar. Admission £1 adults. 80p children and OAPs.



30 minutes from Liverpool St. Station. 12 miles from Central London, just off junction 25 of the M25. Well signposted from all routes.

Or take buses:
008, 242, 310, 310a, 359, 360, 383, 535.

(0992) 637 135

Next show Sunday 21st May 1995

COMIC FILM & SCI-FI MART

Saturday 8th April

LIVERPOOL

CHURCH STREET

SCHOOL LANE

FEATURING ROBO-COP

TWENTY-FIRST YEAR HERE

1995

Open 11am to 4pm

BLUECOAT CONCERT HALL

Admission 50p

EXTRA STALLS IN A SECOND ROOM

NEXT MART SAT 10th June

LIVERPOOL BLUECOAT CHAMBERS

Merseyside's original Comic Mart. Two halls overflowing with comics, mags, annuals, toys, cards and related material. Marvels, DCs, Independants, Gold & Silver Age, Classics, Reprints, Graphic Novels, B&W's, TV&Film off-shoots, Sci-Fi and much more.
Sixty Stalls of material from the Country's top dealers. For booking information contact: Zephyr, PO Box 6, Liscard, Wallasey, Merseyside, L45 4SJ.

A national circuit of marts, run by collectors, for the collector.

Trevor Hughes · Jason Joiner · Mark Woollard
present

COMIC FILM SCI-FI MART

COVENTRY

open 11am **Saturday 15th April**

COVENTRY UNIVERSITY STUDENTS UNION

Student Union Building
Coventry University
Priory Street Coventry

Next Mart here Saturday 17th June 1995

Trevor Hughes · Jason Joiner · Mark Woollard

COMIC FILM & SCI-FI MART

Nottingham

Sat 29th April

VICTORIA LEISURE CENTRE
opposite Saturday Market
Gedling Street

open 11am
Admission 50p

Bookings
0908-679 845

Next Mart here Saturday 1st July 1995

WESTMINSTER
COMIC & SCI-FI FILM MART

Copyright © 1994 DC Comics. All rights reserved.

SATURDAY MARCH 25th 1995

from 11.00am to 4.00pm
Westminster Central Hall
Storey's Gate London SW1

Special Guest Signing
DAVE GIBBONS

£1.00 Admission

Two floors full of
TV & film props, memorabilia,
comics, manga, magazines, toys and model kits

Further dates: • 24th June
7th October • 16th December

For further information about future dates and table bookings, please phone 0171 250 3081

COMING SOON!

JUDGE DREDD TELEPHONE COLLECTORS CARDS
THE ULTIMATE JUDGE DREDD COLLECTORS ITEM

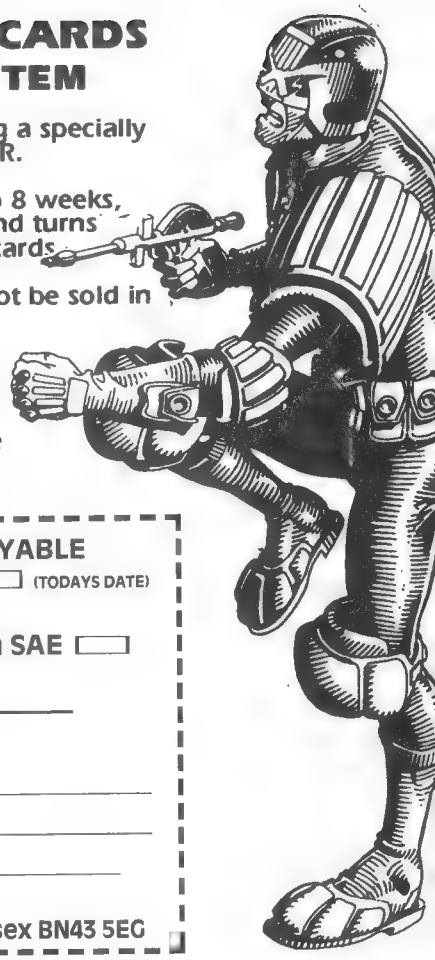
Over the next two years, Eighteen British Telecom cards will be released depicting a specially commissioned story by JOHN WAGNER and with original artwork by KEV WALKER.

Over the next 24 months, a limited edition, single card will be released every 6 to 8 weeks, depicting part of an exciting original story which, as it unfolds, will have twists and turns never to be seen anywhere else except on these exclusive, limited edition phonecards.

The only way to obtain these cards is from the address below. These cards will not be sold in retail shops or any B.T. outlet.

Each card comes in its own original collectors' folder depicting the card artwork and the story in an enlarged version.

This exclusive offer of a specially commissioned story, which will only be available on these cards, is only available for a limited time.



JUDGE DREDD CARDS ARE £10.00 EACH PLUS £1.00 P & P. THIS IS PAYABLE IN INSTALMENTS AS EACH CARD IS RELEASED. ☐☐☐ (TODAYS DATE)

I would like to order the Judge Dredd cards ☐ PLEASE TICK BOX.

I would like more information on the Judge Dress cards, I enclose an SAE ☐

I WOULD LIKE ☐ SETS.

CHEQUE ☐ VISA ☐ ACCESS ☐ CREDIT CARD No:_____

☐☐☐ EXPIRY DATE

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Post Code: _____

Telephone No: _____

Please send to: P&J Promotions, Dept CWA, PO Box 23, Shoreham by Sea, West Sussex BN43 5EG

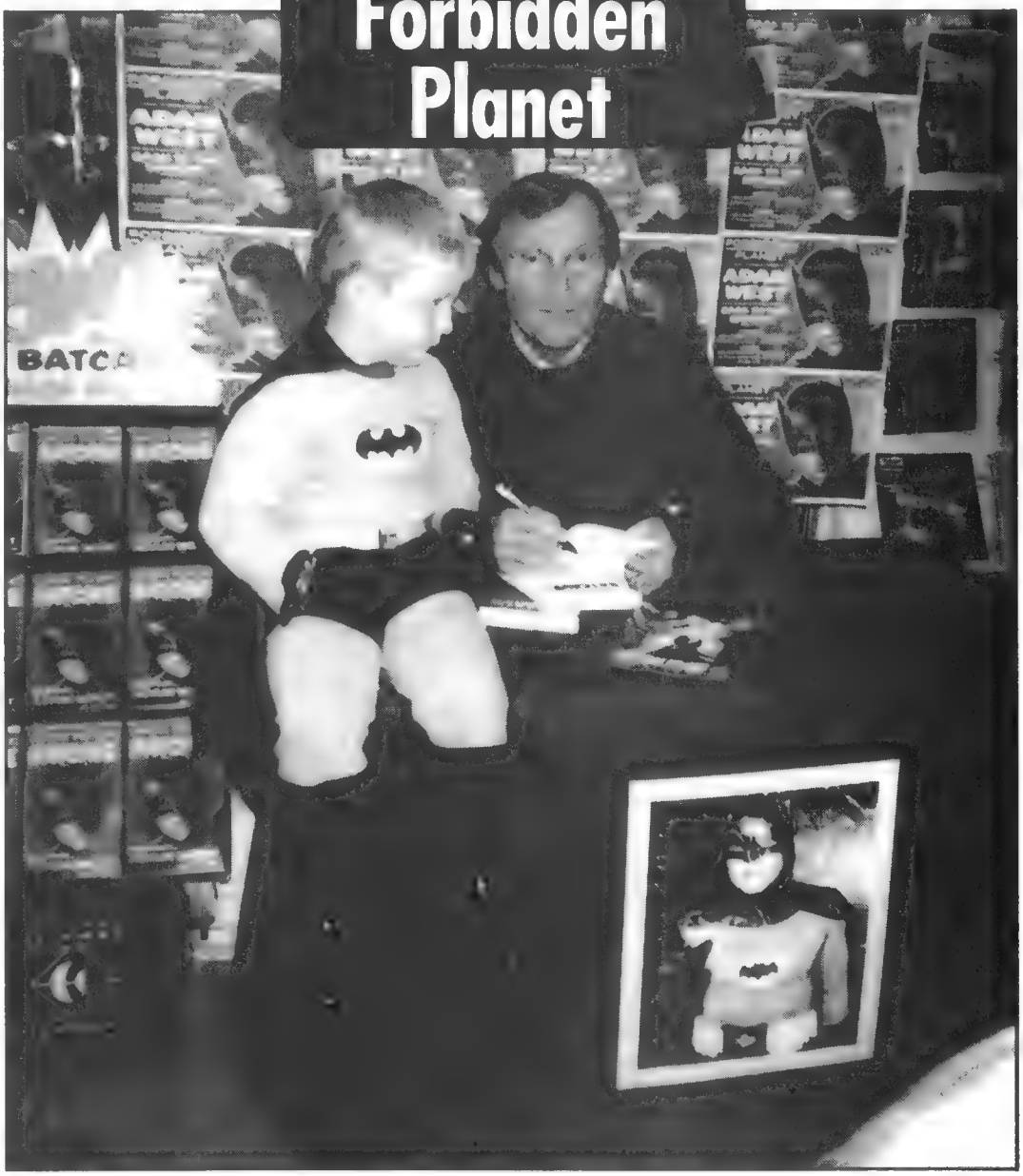
COMING NEXT ISSUE....

- *READERS POLL RESULTS*
- *FANTASTIC FOUR*
- *GODDESS*
- *SMOKE DAMAGE*
- *X FILES COMPETITION*

Retail Spotlight

Forbidden Planet

In this month's feature we turn our spotlight on Forbidden Planet, the country's largest science fiction and fantasy retailer. With a growing number of 'satellite' stores and a unique mail order service, Forbidden Planet has been satisfying the demands of comic fans the world over. Centred around its flagship store in the heart of London's West End, the company now boasts 17 years experience in the specialist marketplace.



Forbidden Planet first opened its doors in 1978. A small unit set amidst the music shops and recording studios of Denmark Street. It was packed to overflowing with every conceivable type of American comic book. FP also ensured that customers could find an equally comprehensive range of science fiction novels and film and television ephemera. Forbidden Planet's well stocked shelves and diversity of material quickly established a cult following, and within three years, Forbidden Planet 2 followed, which concentrated on film and television magazines, books, videos and toys. From these exciting beginnings, Forbidden Planet's popularity as the number one SF and fantasy store led the way to an expansive programme, culminating in it becoming the world's largest comics and specialist retailer.

The New Oxford Street store which opened in 1988 encompassed all types of product, provinding everything a comic fan could possibly imagine, from badges, t-shirts and graphic novels, to merchandise and original artwork. Under one roof you can find a range of comics from Spain, France, Japan and, of course, America. The film and TV department has a wide selection of cult entertainment and carries an impressive number of science fiction and fantasy books whilst customers can find toys and models from the X-Men to Godzilla available in the Merchandise department. As one of the Forbidden Planet Buyers points out: "It's an exciting place to be. If you're at all interested in the weird and the wonderful, Forbidden Planet is the one stop fantasy shop. We are committed to finding the widest range of product available and here our customers will find enough of interest to keep them going a lifetime."

Forbidden Planet's high profile in the comics business has also brought it to the attention of the media. Within the first three months of this year, five major television channels and four network radio stations have featured the London store, its product and special events. Last year, comedian Bob Monkhouse took his television audience on a conducted tour of Forbidden Planet, while more recently, it provided the backdrop for a GMTV Star Trek competition.

But then, the staff of Forbidden Planet are used to handling special events. Most of these take the form of prestigious signings with luminaries from comics, science fiction, and the cinema. Guest celebrities have included Terry Pratchett, Clive Barker, Stephen King, Alan Moore, Frank Miller, Neil Gaiman, Adam West, Alice Cooper, Colin Baker, Jon Pertwee, Patrick MacNee, Linda Thorson and Nichelle Nichols.

With this summer's release of the new *Judge Dredd* film based on the stories from *2000AD*, FP will be exploiting the close relationship between comics and the media. It all seems such a long way from those early days in Denmark Street, but the future of Forbidden Planet is even more exciting with numerous plans on the drawing board. It's a sure sign that the world's largest SF and Fantasy retailer will be satisfying the needs of comic fans for a long time to come.

ABBREVIATIONS

THIS IS A LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS YOU MAY FIND IN THE CLASSIFIEDS & LISTING SECTIONS

M.	Mint Perfect
N.M.	Nearly Mint
V.F./V.F.N.	Very Fine
F.N.	Fine
V.G.	Very Good
G.	Good
F.	Fair
P.	Poor
B.S.	Bookshop Stamp on Cover
T.S.	Taped Spine
R.S.	Rolled Spine
M.C.	Marked Cover
W.B.	Water Bent
P.S.	Price Stamp

FOR SALE

• **ADULT ONLY** large range EROS comics. Back issues and advance import, updated list every month. Also Savoy (Lord Horror) Rebel (Faust 1-10; Eo1,2) Venus etc. SAE for latest list to: Spink! 15 Portland Avenue, Southend SS1 2DD. (7)

• **MARVEL, DC,** independent and British available, mainly 1987-1994 includes Batman, Superman, Star Trek, Star Wars, Hulk, Punisher, X-Men, 2000AD and others, for list send SSAE to: 94 The Barley Lea, Coventry CV3 1DY. Discounts for large purchases. (5)

• **EARLY 2000AD** (issues 2 to 160 not complete run) and Starlord (3 to 21 not complete run) for sale, reasonable condition, reasonable prices. Send SAE for list to Adrian Thompson 1 Fostell Avenue, Silsden, Keighley, West Yorkshire BD20 9LG. No callers. (4)

• **ORIGINAL ARTWORK** for sale, to defray print costs of Something Fast #1, £40 per page including postage, listing as sponsor and free signed copy of the finished issue. First come first served. Cheques: Will Pickering, G/L 9 Kelvingrove Street, Glasgow. (4)

• **ALIENS, CEREBUS** Concrete, Elektra, Grendel, Hate, Hellblazer, Mage, Mister X, McFarlane, Spiderman & Hulk, Miller Daredevil, New Mutants, Omaha, Sandman, Spiderman (inc. platinum #1), Swamp Thing, Watchmen, Yummy Fur and more. Call for list: 01942 826598 (daytime) or Email: alan @ alans. demo-.co.uk. (4)

• **COMICS, FANZINES,** Marvel, DC, Indie comics, Doctor Who and horror mags, books and fanzines, all at reasonable prices. Many rare and obscure items. SAE for list, no callers. Douglas Angel, 69 Chestnut Avenue, Bradwell, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 8PL. (4)

• **MARS ATTACKS** fans signed cards, chase cards, 1988 1994 sets matrix cards Renatta Galasso cards Promo cards signed comics etc, illustrated list £1.50 plus SSAE. Jeffrey Fryer, 47 Lloyd Crescent, Newton-le-Willows, Merseyside WA12 9LD. Tel: (01925) 221516 daytime. (4)

ComicBase
FOR THE COMMODORE AMIGA
COMPATIBLE ALL AMIGAS WORKBENCH V2 AND ABOVE
• Catalogue your collection with this easy to use software.
• Use the list of built in Titles to speed up data entry.
• Print out lists and keep track of your collection.
• Use the simple searching facility to locate a comic.
Available for £19-95 from :-
Or send S.A.E for more details.
[Cheques payable to Dan Winfield]
Dan Winfield
25 Goldhurst Terrace
Swiss Cottage
London, NW6 3HR

• **PRIVATE COLLECTION** of British comic artwork from 1950s/60s/70s, original covers, picture-strip pages, illustrations of interest to collectors. Dan Dare, Mekon, Boy's World etc. Very reasonable prices, open to negotiation. The more that is purchased, the less the prices. PO Box 1, Comic World Magazine, 2 East Hill, Colchester, Essex CO1 2QL. (4)

WANTED

• **WANTED BRITISH** original artwork by Bellamy, Lawrence, Noble, Burns (Countdown), Turner (Daleks), Lindfield (Dr Who/Star Trek from Countdown/Joe 90), Haylock Land of the Giants, UFO and Dr Who from Joe 90 (Countdown), Neal Adams artwork also wanted. Telephone: 0181-301 4023. (4)

• **AMERICAN COMICS** wanted, absolutely anything considered – whatever the size, age or content of your collection. I have plenty of funds to spend and will travel anywhere – excellent prices paid for high grade Silver Age and 1950s comics. I also buy in bulk, and need recent comics, e.g. Vertigo, Park. Horse, Image as well. Send lists to Andrew Colman, 67 St John's Wood High Street, London NW8 7NL or phone 0171-431 7484 with your details. Am also selling 10,000 comics in stock, call for catalogue – wide selection available at low prices. (4)

• **AMERICAN COMICS** wanted, highest prices paid, distance no problem, thousands to spend, anything considered. Send lists to Silver Acre, The Studio Cottage, Edern, Pwllheli, Gwynedd. Tel: (01758) 720532. Also selling 175,000 comics stocked to send me your wants lists. (4)

• **AMERICAN COMICS** wanted, highest prices paid, distance no problem, travel anywhere, thousands to spend, paying full guide on N Mint X-Men #1 Amazing Fantasy #15 and other key Marvels, I desperately need pre-Super Hero, pre-Code Horror and Golden Age Comics, call Darryl, also selling, at present I have every Marvel Super Hero comic published in stock, send me your wants list to Darryl, The Studio Cottage, Edern, Pwllheli, Gwynedd LL53 6JD. Tel: (01758) 720532. (4)

• **DOOR THINKS** it is stronger then Hulk . . . door is wrong! Complete non-buff wants copy with that sequence (1970s?) any condition. Alan (01707) 644969. (4)

ANIME UK
The magazine of Japanese animation, manga & pop culture. Articles, reviews, interviews & pictures on the anime & manga scene worldwide.
£3.50 from Virgin • HMV and good comic/sf shops. £4.20 inc. p&p direct from Anime Publishing Ltd
70 Mortimer Street • London W1N 7DF
Telephone : 0171 637 2588

MISCELLANEOUS

• **MEMORABILIA '95** the Comic Collectors event of the year, from Sandman to Silver Age, Viz to Vertigo, you will find what you want at the biggest ever series of collectors events staged in the U.K. Don't miss Memorabilia '95 at Birmingham NEC on 6th and 7th May and Glasgow City Halls on 27th May. Stall enquiries call (0462) 683965. (4)

• **TURN THE** 'Treasures in your Attic' into cash at Memorabilia '95. These events will have the top dealers from all over the UK and the Continent offering best prices for your goodies. Dig out your old Comics, Annuals, Trade Cards, Pop Magazines, Character models, etc and take them to Memorabilia '95 at the NEC and Glasgow or why not enter your comics in the Massive Comic Auction to be held at the NEC event. For further details call Dave at Strictly Comics on 0181 447 1855. (4)

• **FILL YOUR** bedroom with naked young girls! Get your 'Olivia' and other spicey cards from the country's top trade card dealers at the Memorabilia '95 events at NEC on 6th & 7th May and Glasgow on 27th May. (4)

• **LUCKY BASTARDS!** Bloody students and unemployed wasters get into Memorabilia '95 for only £2 at the NEC event and £1.50 at the Glasgow event, on production of their Matrix Card or UB40. (4)

• **JUDGE DREDD** The New Judge Dredd phonecards will be launched at the NEC Memorabilia '95 event on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th of May. Details on the new Star Wars series of cards will also be being released. Memorabilia '95 is Europe's biggest ever collectors event – don't miss it. (4)

• **THE NEC** Memorabilia '95 'Gold Priority Entry Card' is now available. This is a ticket which enables entry to the Memorabilia '95 event on 6th and 7th May from 8am onwards on both days. This is a must for any serious collectors as it will enable them to pick up the bargains that are usually grabbed by dealers before the doors open to events. The 'Gold Ticket' will also mean no more waiting in queues for hours before events. Tickets are priced at £10 and admits one adult entry to both days events and also to the Glasgow Memorabilia '95 event on Saturday 27th May. Tickets are available now are available by sending a cheque/postal order made payable to Made in Heaven, 216 Kristiansand Way, Letchworth, Herts SG6 1TU. (4)

• **COMIC AUCTION** Strictly Comics will be holding a massive Comic Auction featuring Golden/Silver Age and Contemporary Comics at the Memorabilia '95 events at Birmingham NEC on 6th and 7th May. For further information, contact Dave on 0181-447 1855 or send a SAE to Strictly Comics Auctions, 20A Plantagenet Road, New Barnet, Herts EN5 5JG. (4)

• **COMIC, BOOK** and Record Collector's Fair, Sunday April 30, 1995, Kinver Community Centre, Kinver off A449 Wolverhampton/Kidderminster Road, open 10am, free parking, refreshments available, large selection American and British comics, plus books and records. Enquiries to Roy (01905) 620697. (4)

GAMES GAZETTE
News, Views & Reviews on Board, Role-Play, Computer and other games
6 issues for £6.00 pa and more information
from Chris Baylis, 67 Mynchens, Lee Chapel North, Basildon, Essex SS15 5EG

UNIVERSAL MEGA MART GLASGOW 25TH FEBRUARY
Universal Mega Mart and Auction, Saturday 25th February at The Mitchell Theatre, Glasgow. Mart commences at 11.30am with 15 special guests including Grant Morrison, Alan Grant, Colin MacNeil, and Frank Quitely!!
Mart ends at 4.30pm, but Collectables Auction will take place at same venue between 6p-m and 8pm.
Admission to Mart – Adults £2, Children £1.
Enquiries or table bookings to Angelo Pliatsikas, 0141 339 2776 (after 6pm).

COMIC BOOK POSTAL AUCTIONS LTD
want
LOTS OF COMICS
85% of all the Lots placed in our first seven catalogues were auctioned successfully to happy COMPAL customers. We are now accepting Lots for our eleventh Catalogue, due for publication in June this year.
If you have any unusual or rare comics you would like us to consider for inclusion, please drop us a line at the address below enclosing: title, issue number, date, grade and the minimum acceptable price ('the reserve').
We will be happy to consider comic related merchandise as well, including artwork, books, posters, figures, toys, trading cards and TV and film related items.
We will be accepting lots for the June Catalogue up until Friday, 5th May 1995.
If you would like a free copy of our next Catalogue, just call 0171-586 3007, leave your name and address and we will send one to you.
COMIC BOOK POSTAL AUCTIONS LTD
40-42 Osnaburgh St, London NW1 3ND
Tel: 0171-586 3007 Fax: 0171-586 0945

FANZINES/MAGS

• **I.T. THE** idiotic terrestrial #6 (32pg, b/w) 80p plus 36p postage available now, features IT in The Quatermass Xperiment and a prologue to Charlie and the Demons Book Two, write to Steve Newton, 39 Thursby Road, Burnley, Lancs BB10 3AU. (12)

LISTINGS

Gold, Silver & Bronze Comics
3 Derwent Court, Cecile Park,
Crouch End, London N8 3AT
(0171) 354 4477 Weekdays 6-8pm.

Postage is 50p for 1st item, 15p for each subsequent item up to a maximum of £5.50 – Guaranteed delivery: £3.00 extra (insurance cover up to £500.00 and next day delivery) – Recorded Delivery: 55p extra (insurance cover up to £24.00) – All items sent in comic bags/mylars and packed securely in cardboard – Orders turned around in 5 working days to allow funds to clear – Cheques or postal orders payable to Gold, Silver & Bronze Comics – No cash please, no personal callers.

Unless otherwise stated, comics are pence copies. Please list alternatives wherever possible to avoid disappointment.

25% off all prices.

BRAND NEW UPDATED DC LISTING!

BATMAN 103 (VFN–) £110.00; 128 (VFN–) £55.00; 145 (FN+. Glossy cover. Cents) £39.95; 150 (VFN) £28.95; 151 (Fair) £1.95; 155 (FN. Small spine split. 1st Silver Age Penguin) £49.95; 155 (FN+. Cents copy) £79.95; 158 (FN+) £17.95; 159 (FN+. Joker!) £19.95; 159 (FN) £18.95; 164 (VFN–) £18.95; 165 (FN) £13.95; 165 (VFN) £16.95; 166 (VFN) £16.95; 167 (FN+) £14.95; 168 (FN) £13.95; 169 (FN) £14.95; 173 (VFN–) £11.50; 174 (FN+) £11.95; 174 (VFN–) £12.95; 175 (VG–) £2.95; 182 (VG+) £8.50; 183 (VFN. Giant) £12.95; 184 (VFN–) £11.95; 185 (VFN. Giant) £17.50; 188 (VFN) £7.50; 201 (VG. Cover detached) £2.95; 207 (FN) £3.50; 211 (FN) £2.95; 214 (FN+) £3.50; 222 (Scarce! VFN–. Beatles appear) £11.95; 236 (VG+) £1.95; 240 (FN+) £2.50; 232 (VFN. 1st Ra's Al Ghul) £19.95; 251 (VFN. Cover crease. Neal Adams) £13.95; 253 (FN+. Staple detached at top) £2.95; 404 (NM. Batman Year 1) £5.95; 405 (NM) £2.95; 406 (NM. 1st modern Catwoman) £3.95; 407 (NM) £2.95; 417 (NM. Ten Nights Beast part 1) £6.95; 418 (NM) £3.95; 419,420 (NM) £2.95; 426 (NM) £4.95; 427 (NM) £3.95; 428 (NM) £4.95; 429 (NM) £1.95; 457 (NM. 1st Robin III) £2.95; 473 (NM) £1.00; 474 (NM. Destroyer part 1) £1.50; 492 (NM) £3.50; 497 (NM. 1st print) £2.95; Annual 3 (G–. Worn cover) £6.95; Annual 5 (VG+. Spine creases. Cents copy) £13.95; Annual 7 (FN. Gloss on cover) £12.95; 80pg Giant 5 (VG+. Cover crease. Great reprints. Cents) £11.95; 100pg Super Spec. 20 (FN+. Two-Face reprints) £2.95 BATMAN: IN DARKEST KNIGHT 1 (NM) £1.95 BATMAN: LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT 17 (NM) £2.25; 18 (NM) £1.75 BATMAN: SHADOW OF THE BAT 1 (NM. unbagged) £1.25; 1 (NM. Bagged etc) £2.50 BATMAN: SWORD OF AZRAEL 1 (NM) £5.95; 2 (NM) £4.95 BATMAN: THE CULT 1 (NM. 1st) £6.95; 2 (NM. 1st) £4.95; 3 (NM. 1st) £3.95 BATMAN: THE KILLING JOKE 1 (NM. 1st print DC) £6.95 BATMAN, UNTOLD LEGEND OF THE 1 (VFN+. Byrne) £3.50; 2 (NM. Scarce) £2.95; 3 (NM–) £1.50 BATMAN: VENGEANCE OF BANE 1 (NM. 1st print) £15.95 BATMAN: THE DARK KNIGHT RETURNS 1 (NM. Lovely shape! 1st print) £29.95; 3 (NM. 1st print) £7.50 BATGIRL SPECIAL 1 (NM–) £2.95 BATMAN AND THE OUTSIDERS 1 (NM) £3.95; 5 (NM. Scarce. Perez) £2.50
BRAVE AND BOLD 36 (FN–. Tiny spine roll. 3rd ever Hawkman) £59.95; 41 (VG+. Cover detached) £12.95; 46 (FN+) £11.95; 50 (1st regular teams begin. VFN. Light diagonal cover crease) £29.95; 50 (VFN. 1st team-up. Crease on back) £27.95; 51 (VFN) £24.95; 54 (VG–. 1st Teen Titans) £19.95; 55 (FN+. Scarce!) £7.95; 56 (FN+. Scarce! Water stain) £6.95; 59 (VFN. 1st regular Batman team up) £28.95; 60 (VFN–. Teen Titans. Detached staple) £22.95; 61 (VFN–) £13.95; 62 (VFN) £16.50; 67 (VFN–) £9.50; 70 (VFN–) £7.50; 71 (VFN–) £7.50; 72 (FN+) £5.25; 79 (VG+. Neal Adams) £3.95; 100 (VG+) £3.95; 129 (NM–. ND Scarce) £5.95 CAPTAIN ACTION 1 (VFN–. Wood inks) £12.95 CATWOMAN MINI 1 (NM) £3.95; 2 (NM) £2.95; 3,4 (NM) £1.95. CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN 1 (VG–. Small spine split and small tape removed from spine. Classic Kirby!) £49.95; 25 (VFN–. Detached staple and tiny spine split) £14.95; 26 (VG) £6.95; 26 (VFN. Tiny writing on cover) £16.95; 27 (FN. Book centre cover stamp) £12.95; 28 (VFN–) £15.95; 30 (VFN+) £18.95; 45 (VFN+. Detached staple) £5.95; 46 (VFN+) £6.95; 49 (VFN. Nice pages) £6.50 CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS 2 (NM) £2.95; 4 (NM) £2.50; 7 (NM) £3.50; 8 (NM) £3.25; 10,11 (NM) £1.50; 12 (NM) £2.75 DETECTIVE COMICS 243 (VFN. Scarce) £79.95; 279 (VG+. Indentation on back cover) £22.95; 280 (FN. Slight spine roll) £14.95; 288 (VG+) £13.95; 297 (FN. Glossy) £19.95; 304 (VFN–) £17.95; 307 (FN) £14.95; 307 (VFN) £17.95; 310 (VG+. Scarce) £7.95; 325 (VG+) £4.95; 328 (FN+) £19.95; 330 (VG+) £4.95; 332 (FN. Joker!) £7.95; 333 (VFN–) £9.95; 342 (VFN) £8.95; 342 (VG–) £3.25; 343 (FN+) £7.95; 345 (VG) £4.95; 347 (VFN–) £8.50; 351 (FN+) £7.95; 352 (VFN–) £8.50; 353 (VG) £3.95; 353 (FN. Sticker

COMIC WOR

CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

40 WORDS FOR £5.20 including VAT

To appear in the May issue your ad must reach us by 30th March 1995

☐ *Tick here if Box Number required and include an extra £3.00 with your remittance.*

Please include my advertisement in the next issue of *COMIC WORLD*

I enclose my payment of £ ____ for ☐ issues

Please make cheques/postal orders payable to *COMIC WORLD* or you may pay by Access/Visa

VISA AMERICAN EXPRESS

Signature ____ Expiry Date ____

NAME ____

ADDRESS ____

POST CODE ____

TELEPHONE ____

DATE ____ SIGNED ____

Send completed form to: Comic World, Castle House, 97 High Street, Colchester, Essex CO1 1TH

removal leaving white patches) £5.95; 355 (VFN. Cover crease) £8.95; 355 (VFN) £9.50; 356 (VG+) £3.50; 358 (VFN) £8.95; 358 (VFN–) £7.95; 361 (FN–. Cover mark) £4.25; 370 (VG+. Sl. spine roll) £2.95; 375 (FN+) £6.95; 378 (FN–) £4.95; 380 (VG+) £3.50; 382 (FN) £3.95; 394 (VG+) £1.95; 404 (FN+. Neal Adams) £7.95; 406 (VG+) £1.95; 413 (VG+) £1.50; 472 (FN+) £5.95; 477 (NM–. Signed!) £5.95; 526 (NM–. Giant) £4.95; 575 (NM-. McFarlane) £5.95; 577 (NM–. McFarlane) £ £3.95; 641 (NM) £1.25; 659 (NM. Knightfall part 2) £2.50; 660 (NM. Knightfall part 4) £1.95 DOOM PATROL 86 (VFN–) £29.95; 121 (FN–. Very scarce!) £19.95; (2nd series) 19 (NM) £4.25; 20 (NM) £3.50; 21,22 (NM) £2.95 FLASH 119 (VG) £19.95; 120 (VG+. Spine split at top. Tan pages. Cents) £29.95; 121 (FN– Back cover bottom corner tear) £24.95; 123 (FN+. Small spine split. 1st Earth 2. Classic!) £149.95; 129 (FN+. Nice clean, glossy cover. 1st Justice Society) £55; 131 (VFN–. Green Lantern) £24.95; 132 (VFN–. Tiny cover crease) £22.95; 134 (VFN–. Elongated Man) £24.95; 135 (VFN– new Kid Flash) £24.95; 137 (VFN–. Tan edge and back cover mark. GA Flash and Green Lantern) £49.95; 138 (VFN. Tan edge) £19.95; 140 (VFN–. 1st Heat Wave. Tiny piece out back corner and bottom corner impact) £18.95; 141 (VFN. Small back cover crease) £14.95; 142 (VFN–. Tan edge) £13.95; 149 (VFN) £14.95; 150 (VFN) £14.95; 151 (VFN+. Nice and glossy!) £18.95; 152 (VFN. Detached at top staple) £11.95; 153 (VFN–. Top corner of cover scuffed) £9.95; 154 (VFN+. Cover slightly detached at top staple) £12.95; 155 (VFN+. Nice pages) £13.95; 156 (VFN) £10.95; 157 (VFN–. Cover crease) £9.95; 159 (VFN+. Tiny back cover crease) £10.95; 162 (VFN+. Cover mark and detached staple) £10.95; 163 (VFN–) £9.95; 164 (VFN–. Staple detached) 9.95; 166 (VFN+. Cover mark) £10.95; Annual 1 (VG+. Small cover tear. Cents) £49.95; 80pg Giant 9 (VFN–. Cover mark and spine wear at bottom) £13.95 (2nd Series) Annual 5 (NM. Travis Charest art) £3.95
GREEN LANTERN 6 (VFN+. Tiny writing on 1st page) £74.95; 7 (FN+. Small spine split at top) £69.95; 8 (FN. Scarce. Glossy painted cover) £49.95; 11 (VFN+) £59.95; 13 (FN+) £49.95; 15 (FN) £35.95; 15 (FN. Sub crease) £29.95; 16 (FN–. Detached staple) £27.95; 20 (FN–. Stain inside front cover/cover creases) £21.95; 20 (FN. Staple detached) £24.95; 21 (VFN–) £29.95; 22 (VFN. Tiny stain inside front cover) £29.95; 22 (FN+. Writing on first page) £22.95; 23 (VFN–) £29.95; 24 (FN+) £24.95; 25 (FN+) £24.95; 26 (VG+) £15.95; 29 (VFN–) £34.95; 35 (FN-. Tiny ripple at top) £14.95; 36 (FN+. Small indent at top edge) £14.95; 39 (VFN–. Indent at bottom edge) £15.95; 40 (VFN–. Secret Origin of The Guardians. Indent and marks on back cover) £69.95; 43 (VFN–. Top corner scuff) £10.95; 56 (FN+) £5.95; 57 (FN+) £5.95; 59 (VG+. Piece off back cover. 1st Guy Gardner. Cents copy) £29.95; 76 (FN–. Cover creasing. 1st Neal Adams art) £27.95; 80 (FN–. Neal Adams) £4.95; 109 (NM. ND Scarce) £2.95; 116 (NM–. Guy Gardner as G.L.) £6.95
HOUSE OF MYSTERY 26 [May 1954] (FN+. Tiny cover tear. Nice glossy cover) £19.95 HOUSE OF SECRETS 66 (VG–. 1st Eclipso cover. Tiny writing on cover) £6.95 JIMMY OLSEN 40 (VG) £8.95; 67 (FN) £4.50; 68 (VFN–) £5.25; 69 (VFN–) £4.95; 74 (VFN–) £4.50; 75 (VFN–) £4.50; 78 (VFN–) £4.50; 79 (VFN–) £4.50; 81 (VFN–) £3.25; 82 (VFN–) £3.25; 83 (VFN–) £2.95; 84 (VFN–) £2.95; 85 (FN+) £1.95; 92 (VFN) £3.25; 96 (VFN–) £2.95; 96 (VFN) £3.25; 97 (VFN) £3.25; 97 (VFN–) £2.95 JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA 2 (VG–) £59.95; 3 (VG+. Reasonable cover gloss) £79.95; 4 (VFN–. Sub crease. Cents. Looks nice) £69.95; 6 (VFN–. Glossy) £79.95; 7 (VG+. Spine split at bottom to staple). Glossy cover) £19.95; 9 (FN+. Slight sub crease. Origin JLA) £99.95; 12 (FN+. Glossy cover) £44.95; 14 (FN) £39.95; 16 (FN+. Glossy cover) £39.95; 17 (FN+. Back cover corner crease) £34.95; 18 (VFN–. Nice glossy cover) £39.95; 19 (FN+. Heavy crease top corner of comic) £24.95; 20 (VFN. Nice!) £44.95; 21 (VFN–. 1st JSA. Nice glossy cover) £74.95; 21 (VG+) £39.95; 22 (VFN–. 2nd JSA. Nice glossy cover) £64.95; 22 (VFN. Glossy) £69.95; 23 (VFN. Glossy!) £24.95; 24 (VFN–. Back cover corner crease) £19.95; 25 (VFN–. Glossy!) £22.50; 25 (FN) £15.95; 26 (VFN–. Glossy!) £22.50; 26 (FN) £14.95; 29 (FN+. 2nd JSA) £21.95; 30 (VFN–. Back cover indents. Glossy cover) £21.95; 33 (VFN–. Tiny hole at bottom of spine) £8.95; 35 (FN+. Dust shadow on bottom and right hand edge) £6.95; 37 (VFN. Lovely!. JSA) £21.95; 39 ()FN+. Great reprints inc JLA #2, #3) £9.95; 40 (FN) £7.50; 48 (FN+. Cents copy. Great reprints!) £9.95; 94 (VG. Tape in back cover. Neal Adams. Scarce) £1.50 (2nd Series) 69 (NM. 1st print. Doomsday!) £3.50; 70 (NM–. 1st) £1.95 LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES 38 (NM–. Very scarce! Superboy dies.) £9.95 LOIS LANE 7 (VG. Corner damage bottom) £19.95; 9 (VG–. Spine tears and staple re-inforcement. Not as bad as it sounds!) £9.95; 27 (FN–) £12.95, 27 (VG+) £8.95; 28 (FN+) £15.95; 29 (VG+) £8.95, (VFN–. Tiny dust shadow) £17.95; 36 (VFN–) £7.50; 37 (FN+) £6.95; 38 (VFN–) £7.50; 39 (VFN) £ 8.95; 44 (VFN–) £7.50; 45 (VFN–) £7.50; 48 (VFN–) £7.50; 49 (FN+) £6.50; 52 (VFN–) £4.75; 53 (VFN) £5.25; 54 (FN+) £3.95; 55 (VFN–) £4.25; 56 (VFN–) £4.75; 58 (VFN–) £4.75; 60 (VFN–) £4.75; 61 (VFN–) £4.75; 62 (FN+) £4.50; 63 (VFN) £4.95; 64 (VFN–) £4.75; 65 (FN) £3.95; 66 (VFN–) £4.75; 67 (VFN–) £4.25; 69 (VFN–) £4.50 MY GREATEST ADVENTURE 69 (VG+. Small chips out of back cover) £3.95; 81 (FN+. 2nd Doom Patrol) £29.95.
MYSTERY IN SPACE 51 (VG–. Small spine split) £9.95; 76 (VFN) £27.95; 77 (VFN–) £24.95; 78 (FN. Small split bottom spine) £15.95; 79 (VFN) £26.95; 80 (VFN–) £24.95; 81 (VFN–. Detached staple) £9.95; 82 (VFN. Hawkman!) £11.95; 83 (FN+) £9.95; 84 (VFN–) £10.95; 85 (VFN) £11.95; 86 (VFN–) £10.95; 87 (VFN–) £39.95; 88 (FN) £17.95; 90 (VFN) £24.95; 91 (FN+. Small tear back cover) £6.95; 92 (VFN) £7.50; 93 (VFN) £6.50; 94 (VFN) £7.95; 95 (VFN) £6.95; 96 (VFN+) £7.95; 98 (VFN) £6.95 NEW TEEN TITANS (1st) 1 (NM) £5.95; 2 (NM. 1st Deathstroke) £6.95; (2nd series) 1 (NM) £3.95 DRUGS GIVEAWAY nn (NM) £1.95 OMAC (1st) 1 (VFN–. Kirby) £2.50 OMEGA MEN 3 (NM. 1st Lobo) £4.95 RONIN 1 (NM) £2.95; 6 (NM. Very scarce) £6.95.
SANDMAN (2nd) 1 (NM) £14.95; 21 (NM. Seasons of Mist) £4.95
SECRET ORIGINS 80pg Giant No. 8 (VFN–) £69.50; 8 (FN+) £59.50.
SHADE (2nd) 1 (NM) £3.50 SHOWCASE 34 (VFN. 1st SA Atom! Lovely! Glossy, bright cover) £395.00; 40 (VFN–. 3rd Metal Men) £79.95; 41 (VFN–) £29.95; 47 (VFN) £17.95; 55 (FN+) £34.95; 73 (VFN. 1st Creeper. Glossy!) £27.95; 73 (VFN–) £24.95; 75 (FN+. 1st Hawk and Dove) £24.95; 80 (FN+) £4.95 STAR SPANGLED COMICS 55 (FN–) £39.95; 63 (VG+. Some tape) £19.95 STRANGE ADVENTURES 114 (VG–. Tiny tape on cover) £2.95; 137 (VFN. Small split bottom spine. Chips top edge) £8.95; 140 (FN) £6.95; 141 (VFN) £10.95; 144 (VFN. Staple detached) £10.95; 152 (VFN. Glossy cover) £8.95; 184 (VFN+. Small sticker damage. 2nd Animal Man) £39.95; 210 (VFN+. Neal Adams) £10.95; 213 (VFN+. Neal Adams) £9.95; 213 (VFN+. Neal Adams) £9.75; 215 (VFN+. Neal Adams) £8.95; 216 (NM–. Scarce. Neal Adams) £12.95 SUPERBOY 19 (1952! VFN–. Nice oldie) £92.50; 72 (VG) £8.25; 72 (VG. Taped spine) £5.95; 72 (VFN) £24.95; 73 (VG–. Piece out of bottom left cover) £4.95; 78 (FN–) £27.50; 79 (FN+. Small back cover tear) £14.95; 80 (FN) £25.95; 86 (VG+) £24.95; (VFN+. 4th Legion. Beautiful glossy cover) £49.95; 86 (VG–. Tiny piece out cover) £19.95; 97 (FN+. Small spine split at top) £7.95; 99 (VFN–) £9.95; 100 (VFN. Nice anniversary issue) £49.95; 101 (FN–. Tear thru comic at bottom) £1.95; 106 (VFN) £5.75; 108 (FN) £4.95; 109 (FN–) £4.50; 114 (VFN–) £5.75; 115 (VFN–) £5.75; 116 (VFN–) £5.75; 119 (VFN) £5.95; 119 (FN+) £4.95; 120 (FN+) £4.95; 123 (FN–) £2.75; 123 (VFN) £4.95; 124 (VFN) £4.75; 125 (VFN) £4.75; 128 (VFN) £4.75; 131 (FN+) £2.75; 139 (FN–) £1.95; 139 (VG) £1.25; 141 (VFN–) £2.95; 144 (FN–) £1.75; 80pg Giant 10 (VFN. Nice looking. Tiny split at top spine) £19.50 SUPERMAN 130 (VFN. Nice!) £59.95; 134 (FN+. Teeny chip out of spine) £29.95; 140 (FN+. Sl. spine wear. Son of Bizarro) £37.95; 142 (VFN–. Cover scuff) £27.95; 146 (VG+. Scarce. Superman's life story. Glossy) £24.95; 147 (FN+. Spine wear. 7th Legion) £29.95; 147 (VFN) £34.95; 147 (FN–) £26.95; 148 (VFN) £28.95; 149 (FN. Cover crease. Death of Superman) £23.95; 150 (VG+ tape removed) £9.95; 158 (VFN) £19.95; 159 (VG+) £6.95; 159 (VG+) £5.95; 160 (VFN. Indent edge) £17.50, (FN) £10.50; 161 (FN+) £12.50; 164 (VFN) £13.95; 170 (FN+) £10.50; 171 (VFN–) £9.50; 173 (FN+) £7.95; 174 (FN) £6.95; 175 (VFN-) £8.95; 176 (VFN–) £8.95; 177 (FN) £6.95; 178 (VFN–) £8.95; 179 (FN+) £7.95; 180 (VFN–) £8.50; 181 (FN+) £5.95; 181 (VFN–) £7.50; 181 (VFN) £7.95; 182 (FN+) £5.95; 183 (FN. Giant) £8.95; 183 (VFN–) £10.95; 184 (VFN–) £6.95; 185 (VFN–) £6.95; 186 (FN) £4.50; 188 (VFN) £6.95; 189 (VFN–) £6.50; 190 (VFN–) £5.95; 192 (FN–) £3.95; 196 (VG+) £2.95; 209 (FN–) £2.95; 211 (FN–) £2.75; 221 (VG+) £1.50; 221 £1.25 (VG) 223 (VG+) £1.50; 225 (FN–) £1.75; 228 (VG) £1.00; 231 (FN+) £1.95; 231 (FN+) £1.95; 234 (FN+) £1.50; 243 (VG+) £1.00; 500 (NM. Bagged) £2.50; 505 (NM. Collector's Edition) £1.75; Annual 3 (FN) £49.95; Annual 5 (FN–) £24.95; 80pg Giant 6 (FN+. Gloss on cover) £24.95; 80pg Giant 6 (FN. Cover crease. Cents) £24.95 (2nd series) 75 (NM. Bagged/unopened) £6.95 SUPERMAN GALLERY 1 (NM) £1.95 SWAMP THING 21 (NM. Alan Moore) £14.95; 29 (NM) £4.50 TALES OF THE NEW TEEN TITANS 1-4 (NM. All signed by Marv Wolfman) £1.95 TEEN TITANS SPOTLIGHT 1 (NM) £1.25 TALES OF THE UNEXPECTED 31 (VFN+. Glossy. White pages. Piece out of back cover unfortuneately) £19.95 TEEN TITANS 9 (VG+. Small spine split) £4.95; 22 (FN–. Slight spine wear) £5.95 TOMAHAWK 88 (FN) £5.95 WORLD'S FINEST 126 (VFN+) £12.95; 128 (VFN) £10.95; 129 (VFN) £14.95; 130 (FN+. Cover tear) £7.25; 131 (VFN–) £7.95; 132 (FN+) £7.25; 133 (VFN–) £7.95; 137 (VFN) £9.95; 141 (VFN) £9.95; 142 (VFN) £8.95; 144 (VFN+) £8.25; 146 (VFN–) £5.25; 147 (VFN–) £5.25; 148 (VFN-) £5.50; 149 (VFN–) £5.25; 151 (VFN–) £5.25; 152 (VFN–) £4.75; 159 (VFN–) £4.95; 160 (VFN–) £5.25; 162 (VFN) £3.75; 163 (VFN–) £3.50; 164 (VFN–) £3.50; 165 (FN+) £3.25; 168 (FN–) £2.75; 171 (VG+) £1.25; 192 (FN) £1.75; 197 (VG+) £2.25.

GOLD, SILVER & BRONZE COMICS
3 Derwent Court, Cecile Park,
LONDON N8 9AT
Tel: 0171 354 4477
Weekdays 6-8pm
★ 1000's Marvel, D.C. & Independents 1934-1994
★ Golden Age, Silver Age and Hot Books, all grades
★ Specialists in N.D. rare and key book material
★ Well below Guide prices ★ Very accurate grading
★ Wants Lists welcome
★ Phone/write for full bumper free list

Red Hot Comics
42 Berridale Avenue
Cathcart
Glasgow G44 3AE
Tel: 0141-637-0162

7 Days a week; Monday–Thursday 10am to 11pm; Friday–Saturday 10am–8pm; Sunday 10am–11pm. Please leave a message/order if answering machine is on. Mail Order/ Delivery only. *Not a shop*. Hello to all our customers! *Please read payment instructions at the end of this listing.*

The following is but a small selection of the 30,000 Comics and related product currently in stock! This listing contains a few examples of our current Superman stock, as well as recent and highly sought after X-issues, and also offers you the opportunity to snap up copies of the new X-Files comic from *Topps*.

Study the listing carefully, then grab that phone or lick that stamp!! We carry a huge stock of 1970's, 80's Comics, and a smaller selection of Silver Age material – so give us a try!! *Send a wants list with a SAE.*

DC SUPERHERO UNIVERSE
Superman #50 £2.50; #53 £1; #57 50p, #66 £2; #74 **(Doomsday)** £3; #76 £1.50; #77 £2.50; #78 £2; #79 £2.25; #80 £2; #81 £2.50; #82 £3.50; #90 £1.25; #99 £1.25. **Adventures of Superman** #500 **(bagged)** £5; #505 £2.50; #510 £1.25; #511–513 £1.25. **Superman Man Of Steel** #1 £1, #18 £3; #19 £2.75; #25 £3; #0 £1.25. **Action Comics** #684 £2.50; 675–686 £1.50; #700 £2,25; #703 £1.25. **Superman: Kal** £4.25. **Flash** #100 (Coll.) £3. **Batman** #515 (Coll) £2.50; #0 £1.25; #500 £3. **Azrael** #1 £2. **Robin** #1 £3. **Catwoman** # £2.50. **Batman: Mitefall** £3.30.

LICENSED BOOKS
Judge Dredd #1 £4. **Legends of the Law** #1 £2. **Star Trek** #68 £1.35. **Star Trek Next Gen.** #68 £1.35. **Star Trek Next Gen. Shadowheart** #1 £1.85. **Babylon 5** #3 £1.25. **Restaurant at the End of the Universe** #1 £4.50. **Looney Tunes** #11 £1.10.

VERTIGO
Sandman #8 £5; #50 £3. **The Invisibles** #1 £3,59; #5 £1.50. **Ghost Dancing** #1 £1.35. **Absolute Vertigo** 75p. **Jonah Hex: Riders of the Worm** #1 £2.25. **Sandman** #66 £1.35. **Books of Magic** #1 £3. **Sandman Mystery Theatre** #1 £2. **Mobfire** #1 £1.75. **Shadows Fall** #1 £2.50. **Witchcraft** #1 £3. **Hellblazer** 80–84 £1.50 ea.

PARADOX
Brooklyn Dreams #1 £3.50. **La Pacifica** #1 £3.50.

MILESTONE
Deathwish #1 £1.85. **My name is Holocaust** #1 £1.25.

DARK HORSE
Harlan Ellison's Dream Corridor Special £3.50; #1 £2.50. **One Bad Rat** #1 (Signed by Bryan Talbot) £7.50. **Sin City: Big Fat Kill** #1–2 £2.25. **Babe Wore Red** £2.25. **The Mask Returns** 3–4 £4 ea. **The Mask** TPB £12.75. **Tarzan: Lost Adventures** #1 £2. **James Bond: Quasimodo Gambit** #1 £2.75. **Hermes Vs the Eyeball Kid** #1 £2. **Classic Star Wars: Early Adventures** #1 £2.50; #2 £2.00; #3 £1.85. **Classic Star Wars Vol. 1** (Boxtree) £7.99. **Star Wars: Droids** #1 £3; 2–4 £2 ea.; 5–6 £1.85 ea. **Dark Lords of the Sith Book One** #1 £2; #2 £1.85. **Star Wars Dark Empire II** #1 £2.25. **Johnny Dynamite** #1 £2.25; #2 £2. **Rascals in Paradise** (Mature Readers) #1 £2.50. **Time Cop Movie Adaptation** 1–2 £1.85 ea. **Predator** #1 £10. **Flaming Carrot** #31 £2. **Rebel Sword** Part One #1 £2.25. **Oh, My Goddess** #1 £2; 2–3 £1.85 ea. **Orion Collection** £12.75. **Madman C omics** 2 £2.50. **Next Men** 1 £5; #30 £2.

STOP PRESS!! All volumes of **Appleseed,** including **Databooks,** plus **Orion, Outlanders** coming back in stock mid-March!!

IMAGE
Wetworks #2 (Portacio cover) £4. **Spawn** #4 £9.75. **Violator** #1 £2; 2–3 £1.50. **Pitt** #1 £5; #6–7 £1.50 ea. **Prophet** #5 £4; #7 £2. **Gen 13** #0 £2; #1 £12; #3 £7.50; #4 £5. **Team 7** #1 £2.50. **Stormwatch** #5 £2. **The Maxx** #10–12 £1.50 ea. **WildCATS** #1 £5. **Groo** #1 £1.75.

MARVEL
Generation X #3 £1.75; #4 £2. **Sabretooth** #1 £3.50. **Gambit** #1 £4. **Deadpool** (new) #1 £2. **Wolverine** #85 (dlx) £4; #86 (dlx) £1.50. **The Mutants: Amazing X-Men** #2 £1.50. **The Mutants: Astonishing X-Men** #2 £1.50. **X-Man** #2 £1.50. **Gambit & the X-Ternals** #2 £1.50. **Weapon X** #2 £1.50. **X-Calibre** #2 £1.50. **Factor-X** #2 £1.50. **Generation Next** #2 £1.50. **X-Men** #41 (dlx) £2.75. **Cable** (M/S) #1 £3.50 (Regular) #1 £4; #16 (Foil) £5. **Excalibur** #82 (Foil) £5. **Bishop** #1 £3; #2 £2.25. **Rogue** #1 £2.50; #2 £2.25. **Spider-man Adventures** #1 £2.25. **Spider-Man** #1 £3; #50 'Åoil) £4; #51 £1.50; #53 £1.50; #54 £2.25; #56 £1.50. **Web of Spider-man** 122 £1.25. **Spectacular Spider-Man** #200 £3; 213 £2.50; 216 £1.50; 220 £2; #221 £1.505. **Spider-Man; Amazing Spider-Man** #362 (Carnage) £5; #363 £4; 391 £1.25; #393 £1.25; #396£0.25; #398–399 £1.25 ea.; #400 (Enhanced) £3.50. **Spider-Man: Funeral for an Octopus** #1 £1.35. **Silver Surfer** #100 £2.75. **Elektra: Root of Evil** #1–2 £2.25. **Marvels** #1 £8; #2 £10; #4 £4.75. **Punisher** #100 £2.75. **Punisher Year One** #1 £2. **Richie Rich Movie Adaptation** £3.25. **Lion King Movie Adaptation** £3; Beavis & Butthead #6 £2; #7 £1.75; 9–10 £1.50. **Ren & Stimpy Your Pals** TPB & **Don't Try This at Home** TPB £9.75 ea. **Gargoyles** #1 £2.50; #2 £1.50.

MISCELLANEOUS INDEPENDENTS
X-Files #2 £2. **Razor** #12 £2.50. **Razor Burn** #1 £2.75. **BONE** 2–10 all signed by Jeff Smith # £6 eac. **Strangers in Paradise** 2 £2.50. **FIII-Bandit** #1 £2.25. **Warrior Nun Areala** #1 £3.50. **Vamperotica** #2 £2.50. **Vengeance of Vampirella** #8 £3.50; #9 £2.50; #10 £2.25; #0 £3. **Cain/Vampirella Flip Book** £5.25 (Art Adams story). **Chains of Chaos Link Two** £2.50. **Shi** #3 £4.75. **Evil Ernie: Revenge** #1 £2.25; #2 £2. **Melting Pot** (Bisley) #3–4 £2.25 ea. **Black Raven** #1 £2. **Angry Christ Comix** TPB £10.75. **Tyrant** #1 (Steve Bissette! Dinosaurs!!) £2.50. **Poison Elves** #17 £2.50. **True Swamp** #1 £2.25. **Hepcats** #1 (Special Edition) 2nd print £2. **G.I. Government Issued** #1 £1.85. **Moon-Shot: The flight of Apollo 12** £2.25. **Thunda-Pork & Karate Rat** #1 £2.25. **Piggs & Stubb** #1 £2.50. **Cerebus** #0 £2.50. **Married With Children: Vol 1** #1 £7.50. **Mighty Morphin' Power Rangers** #1–3 £1.50 ea. **Walt Disney's Comics** 27–29 £7.25 ea. **Comics & Stories** 592–594 £1.50. **Donald Duck Adventures** 4–5 £7.25. **Mary Shelley's Frankenstein** 1–2 £2.25 ea. **Mars Attacks** #5 £2.50.

VIZ (Manga)
Battle Angel Alita Part Three #10 £2.25. **Bio-Booster Armor Guyver** #11 £2.25. **Part Two** #1 £2.25. **Lycanthrope Leo** #6–7 £2.25 ea. **Mermaid's Promise** #1 £2.50. **Ranma 1/2 Graphic Novel** Vol. 3 £13.50. **Mobile Suit Gundam 0083** 9–11 £3.50 ea. **Streetfighter II** #4 £2.50. **Dirty Pair Anime Comics** #1 £3.50. **Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind Part 4** #4 £2.25. **Legend of Zelda: Link to the Past** £8.75. **Super Mario Adventures** £8.25. **Crying Freeman Portrait of a killer Parts One & Two** £13.75 ea. Most other Viz titles in stock – tell us what you are looking for! (Manga Mania too!!)

BONGO COMICS
Simpsons Comics and Stories 1 £7.50 (Welsh Publishing). **Simpsons Comics** 5–6 £1.75. **Bartman** #3 £1.75. **Radioactive Man** 5–6 £1.75 ea. **Krusty Comics** #1 £1.75.

We also have a large stock of magazines, including a large run of **TV Zone's,** and a massive collection of UK Marvel weekly/monthlies from 10p upwards . . . oh, and Trading Cards too, AND WE CAN NOW SUPPLY A WIDE RANGE OF ***STAR WARS MERCHANDISE*** – send your wants lists.

If you do not see what you want here, phone with your requirements or send a wants list (with a S.A.E.). If we do not have your requirments in stock, we will try to find them for you!

For P&P, 60p for first Comic, then add 10p for each thereafter (graphic novels, magazines, add 25p per item). Cards and merchandise, enquire separately. Cheques or Postal Orders made payable to ***Ivor Davis.*** Payment with written order.

Ask about our *Advanced Import Service!!* It could save you £££££s each month and make sure you don't miss out on ***HOT*** Comics or end up paying inflated prices! (See our advert in this issue.)

Allow up to 28 days for delivery. All items bagged and securely packed. Full refund if not satisfied.

Member of COBRA M.O.P.S.

NB. We will be at the *Scottish Convention* 18th–19th March, Clyde Halls, Glasgow. Orders may be uplifted at this event as an alternative to postage.

30th Century Comics
Unit 5, Putney Market,
Putney Exchange Shopping Centre,
High Street Putney,
London SW15 1TW
Tel: 0181 788 2052

This is a small selection of our back issues. Please phone or send wants list for details of others in stock (1940–1995). Standing order service available on latest imports.

Postage and packing (UK) 60p for one comic plus 15 p per comic thereafter; free on orders over £50. Please enquire for rates to Ireland and overseas. Cheques/ postal orders payable to 30th Century Comics.

SILVER AGE DE COMICS
ADVENTURE COMICS 271 VG+ £30.
AQUAMAN 1 VG £45.
ATOM 6 VFN £30, 29 FN £20.
BATMAN 140 FN– £18, 141 FN–£16. 144 FN+ £20, 153 FN+ £18, 197 VG+ £12, 232 FN £12.
BRAVE & BOLD 34 VG (spine professionally repaired) £210, 43 VG (repaired) £45, 59FN+ £20.
DETECTIVE COMICS 233 (1st Batwoman) VG+ £100, 299 VFN–£25, 310 VFN £20.
DOOM PATROL 91 VFN £23.
FLASH 119 FN+ £40. *ANNUAL* 1 VG– £45.
GREEN LANTERN 7 VG £35, 10 VG £30, 11 FN– £30, 12 FN £35, 12 VFN £55, 18 VG+ £20, 19 FN £25, 20 FN £20, 23 FN+ £30, 30 VFN– £25, 30 FN+ £20, 40 FN+ £65.

HAWKMAN 2 FN+ £40, 2 FN– £30, 5 VG+ £16, 5 VFN £30.
JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA 5 G £25, 8 VG+ £40, 13 FN– £35, 13 VG+ £30, 14 FN+ £40, 15 FN £35, 17 FN £30, 18 FN– £25, 19 VG £20.
METAL MEN 1 FN– £60, 4 FN+ £22, 5 FN £20.
MR DISTRICT ATTORNEY 12 FN £16, 18 FN £17, 27 G+ £10, 48 FN– £8, 51 VFN £17, 52 VFN– £14.
MY GREATEST ADVENTURE 80 VG– £35, 82 VFN– £40, 83 FN £25, 84 VFN– £35, 85 FN £25.
MYSTERY IN SPACE 34 FN– £32, 85 FN £35.
OUR ARMY AT WAR 151 (1ST ENEMY ACE) FN £35.
RIP HUNTER, TIME MASTER 5 FN £25.
SHOWCASE 33 G– £20, 34 G £80, 35 VG £90, 35 G £45, 37 VG– £50, 38 G £30, 39 FN £70, 40 VG £45, 43 VG+ £50, 55 VG+ £23, 55 VG £20.
STRANGE ADVENTURES 123 FN+ £25, 190 FN £20.
SUPERBOY 86 FN £25.
SUPERMAN 147 FN– £20.
EIGHTY PAGE GIANT (SUPERMAN) 11 VFN– £30.
TALES OF THE UNEXPECTED 43 VG (Repaired) £55.

SILVER AGE MARVEL COMICS

AVENGERS 5 VG £30, 13 FN+ £23, 14 VFN £30.
CAPTAIN MARVEL 1 VG+ £20.
FANTASTIC FOUR 17 VG+ £50, 27 FN– £25, 30 VFN £35. *ANNUAL* 1 VG– £70.
HULK 182 (3rd App. WOLVERINE) VFN £18.
IRON MAN 2 VG £20, 55 (1st Appl. THANOS) VFN £30.
IRON MAN & SUB-MARINER 1 FN+ £30, 1 FN £25.
JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY 83 G+ £250, 95 FN+ £25.
SILVER SURFER 10 VFN+ £20.
SPIDER-MAN 13 FAIR £15, 15 VFN+ (panel out on letters page) £80, 24 G £12, 29 VG £25, 30 VG £20, 31 VG+ £25, 33 VG+ £20, 129 VFN £135, 135 VFN– £27.
GIANT-SIZE SPIDER-MAN 4 VFN+ £30.
STRANGE TALES 85 VG (Ad page missing) £14, 105 VG– £20, 111 G+ £25.
TALES OF SUSPENSE 17 G £20, 16 FN £50, 20 FN+ £50, 66 VFN+ £30, 60 VFN £20.
X-MEN 2 VG– £110, 10 G £15, 12 VG+ £40.

OTHERS

THE THING 16 VG+ £50 (Charlton 1954).
THE MUNSTERS 6 VG £10 (Gold Key).
unusual tales 25 VG+ £10 (Ditko).
KONGA 5 FN+ £20 (Ditko)
EVIL ERNIE: THE RESURRECTION 3 NM £8, 4NM £8.
DRAMA 1 NM £7.50.
INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE (All 1st prints) 1 NM £5, 2 NM £3.50, 3 NM £2.75. Many other issues available.

PREMIUMS

BATMAN 492 (Platinum) £20.
DETECTIVE COMICS 675 (Platinum) £10.
GAMBIT 1 (Gold) £20.

Bookscene
70 Alfreton Road
Notts NG7 3NN
0602 422575

All comics on this list are 50p each; postage is 50p for the first comic and 10p for each subsequent comic (for large orders – over 100 issues please ring for reduced postage rates) cheques payable to: Bookscene, and send to Bookscene, 70 Alfreton Road, Notts NG7 3NN. Please list alternatives if possible, some – but by no means all – comics on this list may have price stickers on the cover: if you are not prepared to accept any of these please state this with your order. If you are calling into the shop to order your comics, please give us a couple of days notice to sort out your order (you may phone your order through in advance if you wish) Tel: 0602 422575. Guide to abbreviations: MS = Mini Series. The number preceding it is the amount of issues i.e. a 4 issue mini series would read 4MS).

ALIEN LEGION (2nd Series 1987) 1. *ALPHA FLIGHT* 2-11, 14-16. *ANNUALS* 1, 2. *AVENGERS* 172, 179, 190-199, 201, 202, 203, 205-210, 219, 237-242, 246, 248, 249, 251-262, 264-266. *ANNUALS* 17-19. *AVENGERS INDEX* 2-6. *CADILLACS & DINOSAURS* (6MS) 1. *CAPT AMERICA: ANNUALS* 9-11. *CAPT MARVEL* (1MS 18989) 1. *CLOAK & DAGGER: MUTANT MISADVENTURES* 1-4. *DAREDEVIL* 220, 264-270, 272, 273, 277-282, 284-285, 287, 290, 291, 296-298. *ANNUALS* 6-8. *DARKHAWK* 7, 22, 25. *ANNUAL* 1. *DARKMAN* (3MS Movie Adaption 0) 1-3. *DAZZLER* 1. *DEATH'S HEAD* Two (4MS 1992) 1-4. *DEATHS HEAD + KILLPOWER* Battletide (4MS 1993) 1-4. *DEATHS HEAD* The Incomplete (12MS1993) 2-10. *DEATHLOK* (1991) 5, 26. *ANNUAL* 1. *DESTROYER* (Black & White magazine) 1-9. *DIGITEK* (4MS) 1-4. *DR STRANGE* (2nd Series 1974-87) 80, 81. *DR STRANGE* (3rd Series 1988) 2-7, 9, 11-13, 15-26, 32. *DR WHO* 17, 21. *DREADSTAR* 2-8. *ANNUAL* 1. *EXCALIBUR* 10-39, 52, 53, 57-61. *FALLEN ANGELS* (8MS) 1-8. *FANTASTIC FOUR* 263, 264, 271, 272, 274-278, 345, 346. *FF VS X-MEN* (4MS) 2-4. *GHOST RIDER* (The Original . . . Reprints) 1. *GROO* 15, 18, 19. *GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY* 15. *HAWKEYE* (4MS 1983) 4. *HERO* (6MS) 1. *HOWARD THE DUCK* (1st Series) 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 15-17, 21, 23, 33.

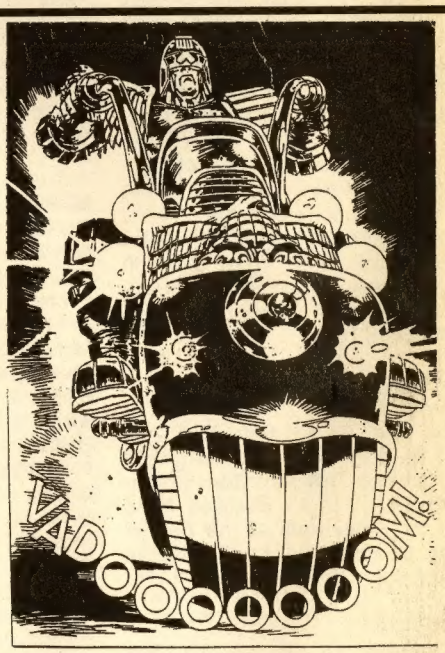
FREE MAGAZINES

12 for the price of 10

RING

0255 676815

AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR LIMITED OFFER
or send this coupon to: The Subscriptions Manager, Castle House, 97 High Street, Colchester, Essex CO1 1TH



© Fleetway Editions

I would like to subscribe to Comic World for one year commencing with the _____ issue. I enclose a cheque/postal order for £ _____ made payable to Comic World or please debit my Access/Visacard

VISA

My credit card expires on _____ date _____ Signature _____

Please rush my first issue to:-

Name _____

Address _____

UK 12 issues for the price of 10	£27.00
Europe	£36.20
Americas and Middle East	£44.60
Australasia and Far East	£47.10
B.F.P.O.	£32.70

The problem with wishes is that, just occasionally, they come true! Find out what happens when Keiichi wishes for a Goddess, in episode 1: Moonlight and Cherry Blossoms. Available March. RRP £12.99

Our videos are available at all good video and comic shops. Also available direct from the Anime Projects Shop along with our extensive range of anime merchandise.

anime PROJECTS

The Anime Projects Shop
19 High Street
Bangor
Gwynedd
LL57 1NP
Tel. (0248) 370044

Available from good video stockists

USHIO & TORA Vol. 3

Director: Kunihiko Yuyama
Running Time: 60 mins.
WEST 031 £12.99

As usual Tora is to blame for the deaths of inocent, and is out to solve the mystery.

Lupin III - The Gold of Babylon

Director: Seijun Suzuki
Running Time: 100 mins.
WEST 032 £13.99

"Anyone who doesn't love it is hard to please indeed!" - Helen

Slow Step 1

Director: Kunihiko Yuyama
Running Time: 90 mins.
WEST 033 £12.99

Minatsu is pretty and popular high school girl but isn't ready to tie herself to just one boy!

Salamander 3

Director: Hisayuki Toriumi
Running Time: 60 mins.
WEST 034 £10.99

With his beloved in danger Prince of the British hurries to her rescue. Can he save her?

24th March

西 WESTERN CONNECTION